FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

14 MARCH 1984

Lebanon

A cease-fire announced by the National Dialogue Conference late on 13 March was still holding the following morning despite intermittent gunfire, Beirut radio reported. The agreement, which was broadcast by the radio, said the Security Arrangements Committee would meet shortly to consolidate the cease-fire and to separate the combatants by establishing buffer zones. Committees to monitor the cease-fire will be attached to the Security Arrangements Committee, the airport and port will be reopened, and propaganda campaigns among the combatant parties will be stopped. The conference took note of the pledge by the parties concerned to instruct their fighters to abide by the cease-fire even if their areas come under fire, thereby allowing the Security Arrangements Committee to deal with violations.

A Lebanese Forces source cited by Voice of Lebanon radio said his side agrees "in principle" to the cease-fire and most of the related arrangements but added that the Lebanese Forces refuse to withdraw from the contact lines because this would place them in Christian residential areas.

In other developments at Lausanne, the conferees submitted and discussed various proposals for the country's political future, including the Lebanese Front's plan for a federal system, Beirut radio reported. Former Prime Minister Rashid Karami rejected this proposal, the radio said, and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri urged that President Amin al-Jumayyil be brought to account for violating the Constitution. Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam told the conferees to abandon any ideas that do not lead to positive results; everyone must make concessions and the conference in Lausanne should continue until agreement is reached on a comprehensive solution, the radio noted. Stressing the need for dialogue and a genuine cease-fire, Khaddam warned that if the conference fails, Lebanon will "cease to exist."

Outside the conference hall, President al-Jumayyil held "very important" talks with Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, according to Beirut radio. Earlier, Junblatt, at a news conference reported by the PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio, reaffirmed his demand that Al-Jumayyil be put on trial.

Syria

Soviet-Syrian Communique — A joint communique issued at the end of CPSU Politburo member Geydar Aliyev's visit to Syria, carried by *PRAVDA* and Damascus television, condemned U.S. and Israeli policy toward Lebanon and hailed the abrogation of the 17 May agreement as a "great success." Noting that Aliyev and the Syrian leaders had held "a thorough exchange of opinions" on the situation in the Palestine resistance movement, the statement said the Soviet Union and Syria are convinced of the need to preserve the unity of the PLO and overcome disagreements within the organization as quickly as possible. Syria and the Soviet Union believe that implementation of the Palestinians' national aspirations is "impossible" without adhering to PNC decisions that reject the Camp David policy of separate deals, including the Reagan plan, and without close cooperation between the PLO and Syria.

Status of Rif'at al-Asad — As speculation continues over the internal situation, Paris *LE MONDE* cited reports from Damascus that Vice President Rif'at al-Asad's defense companies have been dissolved thereby depriving the president's brother of his main power base. On the other hand, Jerusalem radio's Arabic service contended that Rif'at has the upper hand over his main rival, Defense Minister Mustafa Talas, and said Western sources have reported that Rif'at controls Damascus from the security viewpoint. Meanwhile, Damascus radio noted that Rif'at al-Asad held talks with Aliyev before the latter's departure on 13 March. The Soviet official congratulated Rif'at on his new post and on the trust placed in him by President Hafiz al-Asad, the radio said.

PLO

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in the YAR on 14 March after holding talks with King Fahd in Saudi Arabia, SPA reported. The PLO and Saudi leaders discussed Arab and Palestinian developments, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. Meanwhile, an "authoritative" Palestinian source cited by Algiers Voice of Palestine radio disclosed that representatives of Fatah, the PFLP, and the DFLP will meet soon in Aden to prepare a "working formula" to regulate relations between the Palestinian resistance groups. The participants also will discuss the possibility of forming a delegation to visit Moscow and will prepare for the extraordinary PNC session.

Iran-Iraq War

Arab Emergency Meeting — The Arab foreign ministers emergency meeting called by Iraq began in Baghdad on 14 March with the participation of representatives from the PLO and all Arab countries except Libya and Syria, INA announced. Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, in a speech at the opening session reported by INA, viewed the meeting as a test of the Arab countries' ability to stand together in the face of a war that may expand "farther than we imagine." The meeting then went into closed session to discuss the dangers posed to the entire region by the escalating Iranian aggression, INA added. A five-member committee composed of representatives from Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the PLO, and Iraq was formed to prepare a final statement, sources from the Arab League General Secretariat told INA. Earlier, the Saudi foreign minister called on Iran to end the war with Iraq and to make this meeting the beginning of a "new era" in Iranian-Arab relations, INA reported.

Military Developments — "Tens" of Iranians were wounded in the second Iraqi chemical attack against the Majnun region in 2 days, IRNA reported on 13 March. Two regions in the operational area were contaminated by the attack which coincided with the arrival of a UN team to investigate Iraq's "blatant violation" of international law, IRNA added. In a 13 March statement issued by the Iranian War Information Headquarters and broadcast by Tehran radio, Iran urged the UN team to adjust its schedule in order to inspect the results of this Iraqi chemical bombing in Majnun and the vicinity of Hawr al-Huwayzah "as soon as possible."

Meanwhile, an Iraqi attempt to recapture the Majnun region by firing "thousands" of artillery shells and mortars against the Iranian positions there was successfully "quashed," IRNA announced. This was the heaviest shelling in the area since the start of the Khaybar operation, IRNA added.

On Iraq's part, a military communique carried by Baghdad radio on 13 March reported the interception and destruction of an Iranian force attempting to attack positions east of Basra.

Tunisia

President Habib Bourguiba has decided to refer former Interior Minister Driss Guiga to the Supreme Court on charges of high treason, Justice Minister Mohamed Chaker announced in a statement broadcast by Tunis radio. Bourguiba made this decision after reviewing the report of the committee investigating responsibility for the "incidents" in December and January, the statement noted. However, Guiga left Tunisia after his dismissal and is staying in the United States, according to KUNA. In another development, the Defense Ministry announced that two Tunisian soldiers were executed after being found guilty of leaking classified information to a foreign embassy, KUNA reported.

Afghanistan

Army Desertions — "Wide-scale desertions and mutinies" within the Army have occurred since the extension of military service from 3 to 4 years for all units based in Kabul, AFP reported citing Western diplomats in Kabul. Such an extension will affect the entire Army since combat units stationed in the provinces are recalled to the capital after 3 years, AFP added. According to the Western diplomats, there are also "increasing signs" of preparations for a new Soviet offensive in the strategic Panjshir Valley and "several" SU-25 fighter bombers reportedly have arrived at an airbase halfway between this valley and Kabul.

Foreign Relations — A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs criticized the "provocative and interventionist" statements made against Afghanistan by the PRC president during his recent visit to Pakistan, Kabul radio announced.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 051 *14 March 1984*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Baghdad Arab Foreign Ministers Meeting Begins ..... A 1
Jordanian, Iraqi Ministers Meet *[Amman]* ..... A 1
'Aziz, Klibi Meet 13 Mar *[INA]* ..... A 1
Iraqi, Saudi Ministers Confer *[INA]* ..... A 1
PLO Envoy Arrives *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
Bahraini Foreign Minister Arrives *[INA]* ..... A 1
'Aziz Interview *[ATH-THAWRAH]* ..... A 1
Representational Level Reported *[INA]* ..... A 1
YAR Minister, Klibi Speak *[INA]* ..... A 2
Closed Session 14 March *[INA]* ..... A 2
Closed Session Ends *[INA]* ..... A 2
Committee for Final Statement *[INA]* ..... A 3
Sa'ud al-Faysal Statement *[INA]* ..... A 3
Arab Labor Conference Action on Iraq-Iran War *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 3
Amal's Birri on Protection of Palestinians in Lebanon *[AL-QABAS]* ..... A 3
Fatah Groups to Convene in Aden 'At End of Week' *[Algiers]* ..... A 3
Baghdad PLO Radio Reports Resistance Activity ..... A 4
Baghdad PLO Radio on Nigerian Relations ..... A 4

OPEC AFFAIRS

Nigerian Oil Minister Comments on Production Quota *[Lagos]* ..... B 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Tunisian Officials Leave for Saudi Arabia ..... C 1

KUWAIT

Foreign Ministry's Ja'far on Foreign Relations ..... C 1
Deputy Premier Leaves for Arab Meeting in Iraq ..... C 1
AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM Urges Conference Back Iraq ..... C 1

OMAN

Foreign Minister Departs for Baghdad Meeting ..... C 2

PDRY

Soviet NOVOSTI Deputy Chief Visits Lahaj ..... C 2

QATAR

Foreign Affairs Minister Leaves for Baghdad ..... C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Yasir 'Arafat Visits Riyadh for Talks ..... C 2

Meets With King Fahd *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... C 2
'Arafat Departs ..... C 3
Cabinet Discusses Recent Lebanese Developments ..... C 3
Fahd Receives Jordanian Envoy, Husayn Message ..... C 3
Foreign Minister Departs for Baghdad Meeting ..... C 3
Military Training Pact Signed With France *[London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 7 Mar]* ..... C 3

UAE

Delegation Departs for Baghdad Conference ..... C 4
AL-FAJR Calls for Anti-U.S. Sanctions ..... C 4
President Receives Bangladesh Envoy, Letter ..... C 4

YAR

'Arafat Arrives for Visit, Makes Statement ..... C 4

EGYPT

Mubarak Meets Karamanlis; Identity of Views Noted ..... D 1
Ceausescu Message to Mubarak Urges Conference ..... D 1
Romania's Pungan Ends Visit, Departs Cairo ..... D 1
French Trade Minister Arrives in Cairo 12 Mar ..... D 1
Turkey's Industry Minister Arrives for Talks *[Ankara]* ..... D 1
AKHBAR AL-YAWM Interviews Abu Ghazalah *[10 Mar]* ..... D 1
AL-AHRAM on Libya's 'Reconciliation' Attempts ..... D 3
Briefs: Trilateral Agreement Renewed ..... D 3

IRAQ

Armed Forces Communique No 1,403 - 13 March ..... E 1
ATH-THAWRAH on Iran's 'Foiled' Aggression ..... E 1
Oil Minister Meets With USSR's Ryabov ..... E 1
Joint Economic Committee Meets ..... E 1
Ramadan Receives USSR Ambassador 13 Mar ..... E 2
Trade Minister Receives Hungary's Horvath ..... E 2
Ramadan, Horvath Meet 13 Mar ..... E 2

JORDAN

PRC President Ends 6-Day Visit 13 March ..... F 1
King Receives Senegalese Envoy, Message ..... F 1
AD-DUSTUR on Reagan Statements to Jewish Group ..... F 1
AR-RA'Y on Freezing West Bank Village Leagues ..... F 1
Briefs: Parliamentary By-election Results ..... F 2

LEBANON

Further Reportage on Dialogue Conference ..... G 1
Khaddam Addresses Conference ..... G 1
Leaders' Proposals; Franjiyah on U.S. ..... G 2
3d Session Ends; Agenda Approved *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 4
Presidential Adviser on Session ..... G 4
Government Spokesman on Meeting *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... G 5
Fourth Session Begins ..... G 5
Jumblatt Addresses Conference *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 6
Further on Deliberations Over Cease-Fire ..... G 6
PSP: Al-Jumayyil Signs Cease-Fire *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 6
'Text' of Cease-Fire Agreement ..... G 7
Lebanese Forces' on Cease-Fire ..... G 7
Takes Effect 1900 GMT ..... G 7

Cease-Fire Holding ..... G 7
Security Committee To Meet ..... G 8
Further on Opposition Statements, Policies ..... G 8
Junblatt, Birri Remarks Cited *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 8
Junblatt Raps Al-Jumayyil Stand *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 8
Lebanese Front Paper Scored *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 9
Further on Contacts Outside Conference ..... G 9
Al-Jumayyil, Junblatt Meet ..... G 9
Franjiyah's Contacts Noted ..... G 9
Saudi Official, Khaddam Meet *[SPA]* ..... G 9
Christians Reject Nation's Arab Identity *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 9
Khalid, Mahdi Shams ad-Din Issue Statement ..... G 10
Beirut Radio on Israeli Movements in South ..... G 10
IDF Reinforcements to West Al-Biqu' Reported ..... G 10
Papal Envoy Brini Departs Beirut 13 March ..... G 10

SYRIA

Rif'at al-Asad Meets USSR's Aliyev 13 Mar ..... H 1
Communique on Aliyev Visit *[cross-reference]* ..... H 1
TISHRIN: No Cease-fire Violations To Be Tolerated ..... H 1
AL-BA'TH on Attempts To Disrupt Lausanne Talks ..... H 1
AL-BA'TH, ATH-THAWRAH Comment on Lebanon ..... H 1
AT-TALA'I' Condemns Acceptance of UN Resolution 242 ..... H 2

ISRAEL

Shamir Remarks on Diplomatic Relations With USSR ..... I 1
Text of Shamir Address to Knesset 12 March *[GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE 12 Mar]* ..... I 1
Correction to Shamir Interview on Lebanon, Syria ..... I 4
'No Surprise' in Reagan Speech to Jewish Leaders ..... I 4
Further Reaction to Speech ..... I 4
Arens Tours Gaza Strip, Qatif Bloc ..... I 5
Ben-Eli'ezer on Reaction to Husayn-'Arafat Meeting ..... I 5
Shilansky: Iraqi Regime 'Cruel, Barbaric, Inhuman' ..... I 5
French Minister on EEC Problems, Cooperation ..... I 5
'Arafat Meeting With Finland's Sorsa Protested ..... I 6
Attempt To Assassinate Envoy to Greece Foiled ..... I 6
DAVAR, HATZOFE on Religious Disputes ..... I 6
Report on Assessment of Syrian Power Struggle *[THE JERUSALEM POST 11 Mar]* ..... I 6
Jerusalem Arabic on Syrian Cabinet Formation ..... I 6
UN Official Examining Lebanese Security Arrangements ..... I 7
Hand Grenade Thrown at IDF Patrol in Sidon ..... I 7
Sidon Port Remains Closed; Militias Formed ..... I 7
Two Bombs Explode in Lebanon's Western Sector ..... I 7
MA'ARIV: Harif Commentary on Lebanon *[9 Mar]* ..... I 7
Zaq on Superpower Struggle in Lebanon *[MA'ARIV 9 Mar]* ..... I 10
Guatemalan Communications Minister Arrives 12 Mar ..... I 11
Briefs: New Knesset Member ..... I 11

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Iran's Velayati, Delegation Continue Visit ..... Q 1
Meet With FLN Officials ..... Q 1
Ibrahimi, Velayati Talks Reported ..... Q 1
Velayati Meets Assembly President *[IRNA]* ..... Q 1
Velayati Comments on Talks *[IRNA]* ..... Q 1
Bilateral Talks Continue *[Tehran]* ..... Q 1
Finland's Sorsa, Trade Delegation Visit for Talks ..... Q 2

Arrival in Algiers *[Helsinki]* ____ Q 2
Ibrahimi Receives Finnish Visitor ____ Q 2
Sorsa on Talks, 'Arafat ____ Q 2
ASH-SHA'B on Abrogation of 17 May Agreement *[6 Mar]* ____ Q 3

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Interviewed by AL-AHALI *[7 Mar]* ____ Q 3
Rally Masses Issue Message for Al-Qadhdhafi ____ Q 5
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Arab League's Klibi ____ Q 6
Lebanese Parliamentary Official Visits Tripoli ____ Q 6
Yemeni Planning Chief Departs Tripoli 13 Mar ____ Q 6
Cooperation Agreements Signed ____ Q 6
'Arafat Reportedly Reveals Al-Qadhdhafi Threat ____ Q 6

MAURITANIA

Changes in Regional Military Command Reported ____ Q 6

MOROCCO

MAP: Algeria 'Falsifies' Joint Communique ____ Q 7

SUDAN

Mubarak 'Regrets' Ethiopian Stand on Nairobi ____ Q 7
At-Tayyib Receives Equatorial Region Governor ____ Q 8
President Numayri Receives New French Envoy ____ Q 8

TUNISIA

Two Army Soldiers Executed for Treason ____ Q 8

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Joint Development Protocol Signed With USSR ____ R 1
SPLA Chief Details Situation in Southern Sudan ____ R 1

TANZANIA

Mozambique's Machel Delivers Speech to Party Body *[Maputo]* ____ R 1

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Habre Concludes Agreement With Southern Rebels *[SUNA]* ____ S 1

GABON

Guinea's Sekou Toure Ends Visit, Returns Home ____ S 1
Joint Communique Issued ____ S 1

ZAIRE

Portugal's Eanes, Gama Arrive for 3-Day Visit ____ S 2
Eanes Speaks at Banquet *[Lisbon]* ____ S 2

WEST AFRICA

ECOWAS Customs Seminar Opens in Banjul 12 Mar *[PANA]* ____ T 1

GHANA

TASS Announces New Soviet Ambassador 13 Mar *[AFP]* ____ T 1
Departing Envoy Lauds Ties ____ T 1

GUINEA-BISSAU

Saude Maria Dismissed From Post of Vice President *[EFE]* ____ T 1

IVORY COAST

Talks Held With Ghana on Maintaining Cocoa Prices ____ T 1

NIGERIA

Morocco Urged To Exercise Restraint on W. Sahara ____ T 2
Gambari on Lack of 'Progressive' Foreign Policy ____ T 2
Buhari Warns Religious Fanaticism Not Tolerated ____ T 2
Steps Taken in Gongola To Curtail Religious Practices ____ T 2
Committee To Investigate Riots ____ T 3
Ogun Restricts Open-Air Sermons ____ T 3
Security Moves To End Abuse of Immigration Policy ____ T 3
Prices of Essential Goods Continue Steep Rise *[AFP]* ____ T 4

TOGO

France's Nucci Arrives in Lome, Comments on Ties ____ T 4

UPPER VOLTA

SNEAHV Leaders Tried To 'Destabilize' Country ____ T 5
Background to TU Arrests ____ T 6
Ivorian Education Minister Meets Sankara, Comments ____ T 6

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

FAPLA: 100 'Bandits' Killed; UNITA Poisoning Public ____ U 1
Soviet, Cuban Military Aid to Country Detailed *[Lisbon EXPRESSO 3 Mar]* ____ U 1
Correction to Foreign Ministry Statement on Namibia ____ U 1

LESOTHO

Foreign Minister Sekhonyana Discusses Ties With RSA ____ U 2
Sabotage by Lesotho Liberation Army Chronicled ____ U 2

MALAWI

Banda: World Recession Mandates 'Austerity Budget' ____ U 3

MOZAMBIQUE

Provincial Officials Hail RSA Nonaggression Pact ____ U 3
Rally Planned To Mark Nonaggression Pact Signing ____ U 3
Nyerere, Machel Meet, Discuss Nonaggression Accord ____ U 3

NAMIBIA

Multiparty Conference Approves Botha Proposal *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 4

SOUTH AFRICA

Foreign Minister Reiterates Cubans Must Leave Angola ..... U 4
UN Leader Asks RSA To Clarify Resolution Stance ..... U 4
Peace Conference Not Attempt To 'Circumvent' UN ..... U 4
Defense Chief Viljoen Cites Continued Readiness ..... U 5

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Greets UN Official, Reaffirms Support ..... U 5
Party Chief Meets UN Commissioner for Namibia ..... U 5

ZIMBABWE

Official Says UN 'Cautious' on Namibia Initiatives ..... U 5

Baghdad Arab Foreign Ministers Meeting Begins

Jordanian, Iraqi Ministers Meet

JN122121 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri met in Baghdad today with Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and discussed with him the means of ensuring the success of the Arab foreign ministers emergency conference which will begin tomorrow to discuss the latest Iraqi-Iranian war developments and the escalating Iranian aggression against fraternal Iraq.

Al-Masri arrived in Baghdad today leading a delegation that comprises Nabih an-Nimr, Jordan's permanent Arab League representative, and a number of Foreign Ministry officials. They were received at the airport by Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Jordanian Ambassador in Baghdad Salih al-Kabariti, who will join the official Jordanian delegation.

In a statement to PETRA after the meeting, Al-Masri said that his talks with Tariq 'Aziz dealt with the Arab foreign ministers emergency conference, the means to make the conference a success, and the need to come up with clear, effective resolutions to support fraternal Iraq in confronting Iranian aggression. Al-Masri said he will continue his contacts with the Arab foreign ministers before and during the conference. He said: We will work together toward this end. The minister said that there are ideas that we wish to crystallize and a desire to make an Arab decision on the war. The meeting was attended by Nabih an-Nimr, Jordan's permanent representative to the Arab League, and Jordanian Ambassador in Baghdad Salih al-Kabariti.

'Aziz, Klibi Meet 13 Mar

JN131513 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1415 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met today with Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general in Baghdad. The preparations underway for convening the emergency Arab foreign ministers conference due to begin in Baghdad later this evening were discussed during the meeting.

Iraqi, Saudi Ministers Confer

JN131541 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — The Saudi Delegation led by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Baghdad a short while ago to participate in the Arab foreign ministers emergency conference which will begin here later today. Immediately upon arrival, the Saudi minister conferred with Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and discussed arrangements pertaining to the conference.

PLO Envoy Arrives

JN131800 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Brother Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], member of the PLO Executive Committee, will participate in the Arab foreign ministers' emergency meeting called by Iraq. Abu Mazin arrived in Baghdad yesterday. He was received by Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister; a number of Iraqi Foreign Ministry officials; and Brother 'Azzam al-Ahmad, PLO representative in Iraq. Our correspondent learned that Abu Mazin will address the conference this evening, and will affirm the PLO's firm stand on the Iraqi-Iranian war. This stand calls for immediately halting the war, appeals to the Arab nation to shoulder its responsibility in this respect, and urges that a unified Arab stand be adopted in support of Iraq's positive attitude concerning the peaceful calls for halting the war.

Bahraini Foreign Minister Arrives

JN131036 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0945 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah arrived in Baghdad today to preside over his country's delegation to the Arab foreign ministers' emergency conference, scheduled to be held in Baghda later today. The minister was welcomed by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the Bahraini ambassador in Baghdad.

'Aziz Interview

JN131318 Baghdad INA in English 1223 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, March 13, INA — Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz said here today that Iraq would like to see today's Arab foreign ministers' meeting in Baghdad come out with firm and outspoken resolutions in denouncing the continued Iranian aggression. Interviewed by the Baghdad daily *ATH-THAWRAH* today, Mr. 'Aziz voiced hope that the meeting will reassert Arab solidarity with Iraq in its just battle in defense of its sovereignty and security.

Iraq, he said, will not accept weightless statements in connection with the Iranian aggression. We accept firm and clear decisions, he declared. Mr. 'Aziz pointed out that when Iraq called for the extra- ordinary meeting of Arab foreign ministers, it was expecting that the meeting will consider the dangers threatening the Arab nation. In this respect he called on the Arab countries to abide by the joint Arab defense agreement which considers any aggression against any Arab country as an aggression against all Arab countries. Iraq's sacrifices in defending the region's security, should be met with an effective Arab stands, Mr 'Aziz said.

Representational Level Reported

JN140733 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0715 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 14 Mar (INA) — The Arab foreign ministers' emergency meeting, called for by iraq, began here a shrot while ago with the participation of all the Arab countries except

Libya and Syria. The meeting will be devoted to discussing one issue, that is, the grave situation which threatens the entire Arab region in light of the escalating Iranian aggression against Iraq.

Thirteen Arab countries are represented by delegations headed by ministers. These are Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman, the UAE, Jordan, Morocco, Mauritania, Sudan, Djibouti, the YAR, and Iraq. Somalia is represented by a deputy minister; Tunisia by its Arab League permanent representative; Lebanon, Algeria, and the PDRY by their ambassadors in Baghdad; and the PLO by Executive Committee member Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas].

INA has learned that the Arab foreign ministers' emergency meeting will concentrate on discussing two memorandums presented by the Arab League General Secretariat and Iraq, dealing with one topic; namely, the Iraqi-Iranian war and its recent serious escalation.

YAR Minister, Klibi Speak

JN140958 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0820 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Mar (INA) — In a speech at the opening session of the Arab foreign ministers' emergency conference here today, Ahmad Muhammad al-Ashabi, YAR foreign minister and chairman of the Arab League Council's current session, called on the conferees to seriously abide by the 12th Fes summit resolution on supporting Iraq. He added that the disregard of the Fes summit resolutions led to the continuation of war and the change of its nature, a matter which makes it incumbent on us to fulfill our commitments.

He added that the escalation of the Iraqi-Iranian war and the Iranian leadership's continuous rejection of all peace and mediation efforts as well as its insistence on continuing the war with the aim of crossing the Iraqi borders and interferring in Iraq's internal affairs have been detrimental to the security and safety of the entire Arab region.

He emphasized: The destructive effects of the continuation of this tragic war demand us to take a strong and serious stand that conforms with our common interests and commitments, which are superior to all other considerations. He continued: We reaffirm what we have previously said on more than one occasion that we should abide by the agreement and charters which bolster our relations. We have to remember that we are the target of our nation's enemies wherever we exist in our homeland.

Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi delivered a speech in which he emphasized that this meeting is a test of the Arab countries' ability to stand together in order to impose peace, protect Iraq's territory, and support an Arab people in defending part of the Arab homeland. He added that the results of this meeting will be landmarks on the road of the Arab people's future peace and security.

He further said: The current war is threatening to obliterate the common values among all the Islamic peoples, destroy the sources of these peoples' power, and foil their aspirations for a dignified, secure life. He stressed that the danger we are facing is aimed against an Arab League member state whose territories are exposed to occupation, their establishments to destruction, and their people to death.

Klibi said that the Iraqi people are defying death to defend their territory, giving the most splendid examples of steadfastness because the danger may include the Arab Gulf region with all the complications and foreign interference that may result. He added that everyday that passes gives warning that this war may expand farther than we imagine, and then neither excuse nor regret will be of any avail.

The secretary general called for viewing the Iraqi-Iranian war within the framework of a responsible consideration of the Arab and Islamic future. He stressed the need to adopt measures that prove the ability fo the Arabs to close up their ranks whenever danger threatens them. He emphasized that the beginning of this road lies in the need to freeze the Arab differences or at least to put them in their real place on the list of pan-Arab interests because leaving every Arab country to defend its territory by itself will eventually encourage foreign aggression and is a prelude to foreign hegemony.

He then referred to the 12th Fes summit resolution in 1982 and to the collective Arab defense pact, and praised Iraq's response to the successive mediations, its acceptance of a cease-fire, its withdrawal from Iranian territories, and its readiness to establish a permanent peace according to international law and charters. He said: This Iraqi stand provides a suitable background for an end to the conflict.

After the YAR foreign minister and the Arab League secretary general had addressed the opening session, the conference held a closed meeting.

Closed Session 14 March

JN140852 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Mar (INA) — The opening session of the Arab foreign ministers' emergency conference, held this morning, turned into a closed session a short while ago. The delegations of the 19 Arab countries participating in the meeting are now discussing the subject of the dangers the escalating Iranian aggression is posing to the entire region.

Closed Session Ends

JN141002 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0935 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Mar (INA) — A short time ago the Arab foreign ministers, who are holding an emergency session in Baghdad, ended a closed working session which lasted about 2 hours. INA has learned that during the session some heads of the participating delegations talked about the Iraqi-Iranian war and the recent serious escalation of this war. During the opening session, the Arab delegations listened to two speeches by the YAR foreign Minister and the Arab League secretary general.

Committee for Final Statement

JN141017 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Mar (INA) — The Arab foreign ministers, who met here this morning, will resume their meetings in a second closed session at 1700 today, 1400 GMT, to continue their discussion of the Iraqi-Iranian war, which is the only topic presented to the emergency meeting. Sources of the Arab League General Secretariat told INA that at the end of the morning session a five-member committee was formed to prepare a final statement about the ministers' meeting. This committee is made up of representatives from Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the PLO, and Iraq. The sources added that the final statement will be presented to the ministers's session later this evening.

Sa'ud al-Faysal Statement

JN131813 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1740 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has called on the Iranian Government to respond to peace calls and end the war and dispute with Iraq. In a statement to INA here today, Prince Sa'ud said that this would make this Arab foreign ministers meeting the beginning of a new era in Iranian-Arab relations. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal is leading his country's delegation to the Arab foreign ministers emergency conference, which is due to open tomorrow after consultations among the Arab delegations have been completed.

The Saudi foreign minister expressed his pride in Iraq's acceptance of all peace initiatives to end this destructive war. He said: This meeting is being held within the framework of the Arab League and in the wake of the regrettable escalation of the Iraqi-Iranian war, which has exhausted the resources of the two countries and shed much Arab and Islamic blood. He said that the continuation of this destructive war will expose the two countries to further destruction, and will threaten the entire region with grave dangers.

Arab Labor Conference Action on Iraq-Iran War

JN131555 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The Arab Labor Conference continued its 12th session this morning by adopting a number of resolutions aimed at improving labor conditions in the Arab world. The conference passed a draft resolution presented by a group of employers on the Iraqi-Iranian war. The resolution recalled that the 10th session of the conference held in Baghdad in 1982 asserted the need to end the war between Iraq and Iran, and supported the legitimate rights of Iraq and the Arab nation to their land and waters. The conference demanded that the UN effectively implement UN Security Council Resolution No 540, as expressed in Articles 41 and 42 of the UN Charter, in order to force Iran to abide by the will of the international community.

The resolution denounced the expansionist policy adopted by the Iranian regime, its hostile acts that are manifested in sabotage and conspiratorial activities against the states of the region, and its ignoring all calls and initiatives aimed at ending the war and achieving peace and security in the region. The resolution called on the other international organizations, the Nonaligned Movement, the ICO, and the official and popular bodies to intervene effectively to end the war and achieve a peaceful and just settlement.

The conference expressed appreciation for the courage of the Iraqi people, hailed their steadfastness in defending their land and the eastern flank of the Arab nation, and praised both its positions and its calls and efforts to peacefully solve the conflict. It stressed that aggression against Iraq was aggression against the Arab nation. The conference called on the Arab nation to place all of its material, moral and human resources in support of the great Arab battle and to resolve to achieve a decisive victory over the enemies of the Arab nation.

Amal's Birri on Protection of Palestinians in Lebanon

LD140921 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0824 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Mar (KUNA) — The head of the Shi'ite Amal Movement, Nabih Birri, declared in a press statement that agreement was reached recently in Syria on how to protect the Palestinian camps in Beirut in particular, an in Lebanon in general. In an interview with *AL-QABAS* published today, Birri said that the protection of the Palestinians in Lebanon was discussed with ali the Syrian and Palestinian national leaders during his visit to Syria last week. He pointed out that collective agreement was reached on the details of this protection which has already been instituted.

Birri said that there is full and complete understanding between all parties that Palestinian and Lebanese security are indivisble and that the command controlling the security of the nationalist regions in Beirut and the southern area is stressing this unity without discriminating between the security of Lebanese and Palestinian civilians.

He explained that the Lebanese internal security forces which control the security of Beirut and the southern area of Beirut is the security fence for the Palestinian compatriots and that the foundations of this plan were agreed on at the Damascus meetings. He added that there is no obstacles nor problem, except in the minds of those who do not want Lebanon to be stable and who are hopelessly trying to fan the flames of dissent between the Lebanese and their Palestinian brethren.

Fatah Groups to Convene in Aden 'At End of Week'

LD132228 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] An authoritative Palestinian source has stated today that a Palestinian plenary meeting will be held at the end of this week in Aden in which representatives of the Fatah movement, the PFLP, the DPFLP in addition to a number of Palestinian popular organizations, will take part. The source said that this plenary meeting will discuss the preparation of a working formula to regulate relations between the various Palestinian resistance groups under the banner of the PLO and to increase the effec-

tiveness of the popular and trade union organizations affiliated with the organization.

The source pointed out that the meeting will discuss a number of important matters including the possibility of forming a joint delegation to represent the groups of the Palestinian revolution to visit the Soviet capital, Moscow, as well as to prepare and arrange the convening of an emergency session of the PNC.

Baghdad PLO Radio Reports Resistance Activity

JN131820 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men carried out a daring attack against a Zionist military patrol when it was moving in an area north of Tyre in southern Lebanon. The resistance men used rockets and machine guns in their attack. The attack destroyed the patrol and killed or wounded its personnel. A Zionist spokesman admitted the attack but claimed, as usual, that the attack did not cause any Israeli losses. He added that the Israeli forces closed all roads leading to the scene of the attack and waged a large arrest campaign in the area to search for the resistance men, who returned safely to their bases.

Another group of the joint resistance men ambushed a Zionist force in 'Cayn al-Hilwah near Sidon in southern Lebanon today. The resistance men opened machine gun fire on the Zionist force, killing or wounding a number of soldiers. The Israeli military command admitted this attack, but claimed that only two soldiers were wounded. The command said that the Israeli forces initiated a large arrest campaign to search for the attackers, but it did not give further details.

Baghdad PLO Radio on Nigerian Relations

JN091859 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] envoy has received an official invitation from Nigerian President Major General Muhammad Buhari addressed to Abu 'Ammar inviting him to visit Nigeria at the earliest possible time. This came during a meeting held yesterday between President Buhari and Abu 'Ammar's special envoy to a number of African countries, Brother Salman al-Hirfi, director of the African desk of the PLO Political Department. In this meeting, Al-Hirfi brought a message to the Nigerian president from Abu 'Ammar.

During the meeting they discussed the latest developments in the Middle East situation and the campaigns of terrorism, subjugation, and expropriation of lands and properties to which the Palestinian people are subjected by the Zionist entity. The Nigerian president affirmed in this regard his country's support for the Palestinian people's struggle under the PLO led by Abu 'Ammar in order to achieve their inalienable rights to return, self-determination, and the establishment of their independent Palestinian state. The meeting was attended by the Nigerian vice president, the foreign minister, and the director of Middle Eastern and Asian affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Al-Hirfi also held meetings with the Nigerian foreign minister and several officials in order to arrange for Abu 'Ammar's visit to Nigeria. It is worth noting that the Nigerian Government advised the Palestinian envoy of its approval to open an embassy for the PLO in the Nigerian capital, Lagos, that will enjoy all the diplomatic immunities and privileges that are granted to all accredited embassies in Nigeria.

Nigerian Oil Minister Comments on Production Quota
AB131231 Lagos International Service in English 0930 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The Nigerian minister of petroleum, Professor Tam David-West, has said in Vienna, Austria, that an increase in Nigeria's oil production quota inside OPEC will not provide the solution to the country's economic problems.

In an interview with a representative of the OPEC news agency, OPECNA, Professor David-West said that he did not come to OPEC's oil market monitoring committee in Vienna to request for a quota increase because, according to him, that was not the most critical issue facing the country. He stated that what Nigeria needed most was discipline and good house-keeping. The oil minister told OPEC that a task force headed by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, was being set up as part of the war against saboteurs of the Nigerian oil industry.

Meanwhile, OPEC's oil market monitoring committee chairman, Mani Ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah of the United Arab Emirates, has denied any violation of its oil quota by Nigeria.

BAHRAIN

Tunisian Officials Leave for Saudi Arabia

GF131304 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1227 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Manama, 13 Mar (WAKH) — Mr Ahmed Ben Arafa, Tunisian minister of state for international cooperation, and his accompanying delegation left Manama for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

During his 4-day visit to Bahrain, he headed the Tunisian side in the meetings of the joint Bahraini-Tunisian committee for economic and technical cooperation, which concluded its 3 days of meetings yesterday.

KUWAIT

Foreign Ministry's Ja'far on Foreign Relations

LD091506 Kuwait KUNA in English 1352 GMT 9 Mar 84

[By Iqbal al-Ahmad]

[Text] Kuwait, March 9 (KUNA) — The director of the Political Department of Kuwait's Foreign Ministry, Khalid Ja'far, reiterated Friday his country's determination to continue its strong adherence to bolster and step up cooperation with countries of the Eastern and Western blocs while persisting in refusing to deal with allies of Israel.

The Kuwaiti diplomat spelled out in that particular case, the African state of Zaire, which lately restored relations with the Zionist entity. [sentence as received] Zaire was one of the member-states of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) which promptly broke off relations with Israel for its continued aggression on Arab states. Kuwait was swift in severing its ties with Zaire to discourage African states who were being lured by the Israelis to reinstate relations.

Ja'far cited racist South Africa as another category of states that Kuwait rejects dealing with, because of its practice of apartheid. Otherwise, Ja'far said, Kuwait is anxious to strengthen its dealings with all states.

In an exclusive interview with KUNA reporter Iqbal al-Ahmad, the high ranking Kuwaiti official noted that Kuwait's foreign policy is crystal clear as declared by his highness the amir and as stipulated in his statements and his address before the inaugural session of the National Assembly. Ja'far asserted that the foreign policy of Kuwait is squarely based on the principles of non-alignment.

Turning to the Gulf Cooperation Council member-states, Ja'far said relations between that six-member council are characterized by special activities in various fields, and recalled that the council had been particularly active in the preceding period in an effort to streamline and coordinate between the members, which include Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain and Kuwait.

The official said at present Kuwait maintains 54 embassies overseas, 19 of which are in Arab states. He noted that Kuwait plans more embassies but that a shortage of qualified staff is responsible for the slow pace towards that end. However, the strategic and economic importance of Kuwait is reflected in the strength of foreign diplomatic representation in that Gulf city. According to Ja'far, there are 90 foreign missions accredited to the Government of Kuwait.

Furthermore, Ja'far revealed that 15 regional and international organizations were represented in Kuwait.

Deputy Premier Leaves for Arab Meeting in Iraq

LD131533 Kuwait KUNA in English 1356 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Kuwait, March 13 (KUNA) — Kuwait Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah left here for Baghdad Tuesday afternoon to take part in an extraordinary meeting of Arab foreign ministers called by Iraq and due to open later in the day.

In a departure statement, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah expressed pleasure that most of the Arab states responded to Iraq's call to hold the meeting, which will discuss the latest Iranian escalation of the Gulf war and possible collective Arab action to ward off the Iranian aggression against Iraq. He also voiced optimism that the Baghdad meeting will achieve positive results for the entire Arab world and the Gulf area in particular, saying that Arabs urgently need to stop the Gulf conflict, which has killed and wounded hundreds of thousands on the two sides.

The chief Kuwaiti diplomat noted that others must resort to reason and understand that the Arab nation was dissatisfied with that destructive war, and insisted that there must be a halt to the bloodshed which has been harming the two warring countries and the entire Arab world. Responding to a question, the Kuwaiti deputy premier said the Gulf states will not put forward specific proposals because the session is basically being held within the framework of the Arab League, including the Gulf states, to discuss the Iran-Iraq war.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah was accompanied by a five-man Foreign Ministry delegation, including the director of his office Ibrahim al-Shahin. They were seen off at the airport by the under secretaries of the Foreign and Information Ministries, respectively Rashid al Rashid and Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al Ahmad; the Iraqi ambassador to Kuwait, 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Umar Ghani; and senior officials of the Foreign and Information Ministries.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM Urges Conference Back Iraq

GF121717 Manama WAKH in English 1550 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Manama, 12 Mar (WAKH) — The Kuwaiti daily newspaper *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* said that Iran has closed the door to any possibility of mediation efforts the Arab foreign ministers might undertake at their meeting scheduled for Tuesday in Baghdad.

The paper said Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati had made it clear that any mediation efforts are doomed to fail when he said we don't see any benefit from mediation, in an answer to a question about a possible Turkish effort to bring the 42-month war to an end. The paper argued that the Arab foreign ministers have to adopt resolutions on that conflict based on the prevailing facts and current Arab situation, adding that it should be clear that backing Iraq is a pure Arab nationalist action that the conferees should be aware of and draw their moves on its basis.

The newspaper charged that Iran is trying to impose its hegemony on the region and maintained that if Iraq submits to Iran, the whole region will be subjected to the Iranian whims and dictates.

The paper concluded by charging that Iran, under the slogans of Islam, is trying to create a Persian empire, and that this motive is part of a plan to destroy the Arab entity whether in the Gulf or in Palestine, while the Arabs are busy struggling with their enemy in Palestine and Lebanon.

OMAN

Foreign Minister Departs for Baghdad Meeting

GF131541 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, left the country this afternoon for the fraternal Iraqi Republic at the head of the sultanate's delegation, to attend the urgent Arab foreign ministers' meeting, which will begin its work in Baghdad tonight.

Prior to departure, his excellency made a statement to the radio correspondent,saying: The current war between Iraq and Iran is a danger to the human capabilities and material resources of the two countries. Tens of thousands of people from the two Muslim countries have been killed in this war, and it has squandered huge amounts of money. He said: Instead of continuing this dangerous bloodshed, it would be better for them to revert to logic to overcome all the obstacles which hinder the final termination of this destructive war and to employ the human and material resources of the two countries, the economic development and construction for the interests of their people.

He added that the sultanate calls on Iran to take Iraq's course in responding to peace calls and efforts made by the ICO, the nonaligned countries, the UN secretary general and the honest efforts of the GCC countries, which support all efforts for security and peace in the entire region. He said that the sultanate supports all the issued decisions calling for an end to the war between the two Muslim neighbors, including the recent UN Security Council decision No 540 issued on 11 October last year, which calls for the cessation of all military operations in the Gulf and an end to strikes on towns, economic installations and ports. Regarding the urgent conference which will be held in Baghdad today, his excellency said: This meeting is within the group efforts which are being made to put end to this destructive war.

At the conclusion of his statement, he expressed hope that the conference will adopt decisions which reflect the Arab interests in the termination of the war in which both Muslim sides are losing.

PDRY

Soviet NOVOSTI Deputy Chief Visits Lahaj

GF121934 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Brother Sa'id [name indistinct], secretary of the ideological action department at the secretariat of the party organization committee in the Lahaj Governorate, received in his office this morning Comrade Igor Molodavskiy, deputy chief editor of NOVOSTI press agency for Middle East and North Africa affairs, who is currently visiting our country at the invitation of ANA.

Comrade Igor Molodavskiy also visited the ANA branch in the Lahaj Governorate, the people's local radio station and the [names indistinct] farms, which are being built by the Yemeni-Soviet projects body. He was briefed on the nature of the work at these establishments. During this visit, he was accompanied by Brother 'Abbas [name indistinct], assistant secretary of the ideological department of the party organization in the governorate.

QATAR

Foreign Affairs Minister Leaves for Baghdad

GF131455 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Doha today for Baghdad. He will lead the Qatari delegation that will participate in the conference of the Arab foreign ministers, which will convene in the Iraqi capital today.

SAUDI ARABIA

Yasir 'Arafat Visits Riyadh for Talks

LD121204 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived at King Khalid Airport in Riyadh today. He was welcomed by His Royal Highness Prince Safwan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy governor of the Riyadh region.

Meets With King Fahd

JN131721 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] today met with Saudi monarch King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. During the meeting, they reviewed the various developments in the Arab

arena in general, and in the Palestinian arena in particular.

Abu 'Ammar arrived in Riyadh from Amman at noon yesterday on a visit to Saudi Arabia at King Fahd's invitation. Upon his arrival, Abu 'Ammar met with Prince Sulayman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the amir of Riyadh; and Prince Satram ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy amir of Riyadh.

'Arafat Departs

LD132043 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2015 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Dhahran, 13 Mar (SPA) — Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat left Dhahran this evening at the end of a 2-day visit to the Kingdom, during which he was received by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

At Dhahran airport, he was seen off by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abd al-Muhsin ibn Jalawi, the governor of the eastern region, and by a number of officials.

Cabinet Discusses Recent Lebanese Developments

LD131247 Riyadh SPA in English 1200 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Ad-Dammah, March 13, SPA — The Saudi Council of Ministers held its regular weekly meeting here last night under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

At the end of the meeting, Information Minister 'Ali ash-Sha'ir told SPA and Riyadh radio that at the directive of the Saudi monarch he had briefed the Cabinet on recent developments in the Middle East region. The Cabinet had also followed up developments in the Lebanese arena and expressed the hope that the Lebanese national reconciliation conference, currently in progress in Lausanne, Switzerland, would succeed in bringing about peace, stability and security in the country.

Ash-Sha'ir said the Cabinet later reviewed some reports submitted by ministers on projects that had been implemented during the current fiscal year, and added that a final statement would be issued on these ventures within the coming few days. The Saudi monarch then briefed the council on many matters and ideas that could bring about more welfare and prosperity to the country, Ash-Sha'ir said. The king gave directives to ministers and specialists to prepare the necessary studies and views to put such ideas into practical effect within the coming fiscal year, beginning in April, he added. The Cabinet then reviewed a number of financial, administrative and other matters on its agenda and took decisions or made recommendations on them, Ash-Sha'ir said.

Fahd Receives Jordanian Envoy, Husayn Message

LD122049 Riyadh SPA in English 1910 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Ad-Dammam, March 12, SPA — His Majesty King Fahd received here today the chief of the Jordanian Royal Court, Marwan al-Qassim, who conveyed to the Saudi monarch a message from Jordan's King Husayn.

Foreign Minister Departs for Baghdad Meeting

LD131612 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1325 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Dhahran, 13 Mar (SPA) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left here at noon today for Baghdad to attend the emergency meeting which the Arab foreign ministers will be holding there later today.

Military Training Pact Signed With France

PM091647 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 7 Mar 84 p 1

['Abd ar-Rahman al-Ansari report: "Agreement Signed for Training Saudi Forces To Use French Arms"]

[Excerpts] Dhahran — Amir Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation, has signed with his French counterpart Charles Hernu an agreement on the training of Saudi forces in the use of French arms. The agreement was signed at the end of the brief visit which the French minister paid to the Kingdom yesterday en route home from Kuwait.

The French minister arrived in Dhahran International Airport at about 1300 yesterday. He was received by Amir Sultan, who accompanied him and the French delegation to his palace at Ad-Dammam for lunch, which was attended by a large number of Saudi officials. Cordial and amicable talks were held at the luncheon.

It was learned that the talks centered on the Gulf war, and the two sides expressed their regret at the continuation of the war, in which thousands of victims are dying. Sources close to the French minister said that France is playing a major role in the Gulf war. This is evident from the fact that President Francois Mitterrand, in his capacity as EC chairman, has raised the matter in all his visits to EC countries. But it appears that the party that should move is the United Nations, which so far has not been sufficiently active.

Although the visit is not regarded as official, it has been characterized by particular warmth, reflecting the good bilateral relations between the Kingdom and France.

In reply to a question by *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* regarding the position of the French forces and whether they will withdraw from Lebanon or remain there, Hernu said that the French forces must one day return home, but that the manner in which this is to be done must be given full consideration in that the return of the forces should be carried out with honor and integrity.

"We will not leave Lebanon without making sure that it has regained its independence and sovereignty and that reconciliation between the Lebanese has been achieved," he added.

UAE

Delegation Departs for Baghdad Conference

GF131508 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1208 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Mar (WAKH) — Mr Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, left Abu Dhabi for Baghdad at noon today, leading the UAE delegation to the emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers that will be held there today.

Prior to his departure, Mr Rashid 'Abdallah said that this meeting comes within the framework of the Arab League in response to Iraq's appeal to discuss the Iraqi-Iranian war developments.

The UAE delegation includes Mr Sayf S.'id, director of the GCC and the Arab Gulf Countries Department at the Foreign Ministry, and Mr Hamad Salim al-Muqami, UAE ambassador to Tunisia and its permanent representative at the Arab League.

AL-FAJR Calls for Anti-U.S. Sanctions

GF131100 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0850 GMT 13 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Mar (WAM) — The UAE newspaper *AL-FAJR* has called for an effective Arab move against U.S. interests in the region in order to retaliate against the campaign launched by the Zionist lobby in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate aimed at moving the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The paper stresses the importance of adopting an immediate decision so that this action will be adopted calmly and on a timely basis.

Commenting editorially, the paper notes that the severing of diplomatic relations or withdrawing of ambassadors is not the desirable goal. The paper says: "The required reaction toward this grave move which has been undertaken by the Zionist leaders in the U.S. political institutions is taking well-considered steps. These steps should have an effective and decisive effect on U.S. interests and on those economic institutions which are directed by the politicians in the Congress. This should include dealing economic blows that will have an impact on the taxpayers and make these taxpayers aware of how they are led by Zionism and their representatives in the U.S. Government."

The paper calls for boycotting one or two U.S. commodities which inundate the Arab markets. It says that "this decision will have a serious effect on the U.S. producers and this in turn will be reflected on the merchants who deal in commodities, politics, weapons or even principles."

The paper concludes by noting that influencing the U.S. public is not difficult or impossible. The paper says: "We must be capable of confrontation and of adopting effective resolutions, since Arab interests should not be subjected to bargaining in the market of U.S. elections. Arab interests should not be allowed to be sold out among the dealers of destruction."

President Receives Bangladesh Envoy, Letter

GF131411 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1220 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Al-Marfa', 13 Mar (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has received a letter from Bangladesh President General Hussain Mohammad Ershad concerning the latest developments in the region and the efforts that could be made toward ending the Iraqi-Iranian war and stopping the spilling of blood between the two Muslim neighbors, as well as reviewing bilateral relations and the ways of developing them.

The letter was delivered by Mr A.R. Shamsad Doha, Bangladesh foreign minister, when he was received here today by the UAE president.

YAR

'Arafat Arrives for Visit, Makes Statement

GF140750 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, arrived in San'a' early this morning to pay a visit to the republic which will last for several days.

During the visit, he will hold talks with Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, on a number of issues that concern the Palestinian revolution. They will also discuss current developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas.

Upon his arrival, Brother 'Arafat made a statement to SABA'. He asserted that he will hold a round of talks with the president dealing with various current issues and developments on the Palestinian, Arab and international levels, particularly on the present circumstances which our Arab nation is experiencing and the challenges confronting it. Brother 'Arafat pointed out that a Yemeni-Palestinian military meeting will be held to discuss a number of matters that concern the Palestinian issue.

Concluding his statement, he expressed the hope that his meeting with the brother president will bring about constructive and fruitful results that serve the fateful issue.

Upon arrival, he was received at the airport by a number of officials.

Mubarak Meets Karamanlis; Identity of Views Noted
NC131458 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The official talks between President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Greek President Konstandinos Karamanlis resumed today in the Al-Qubbah Republican Palace. Following the 3-hour meeting, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, stated that the talks dealt with many subjects pertaining to international problems and the situation in the Middle East, including the situation in Lebanon, the Palestinian issue, and the Iraqi-Iranian war.

'Ali pointed out that the views between the two sides were completely identical with regard to many issues. On the Lebanese issue, the two countries are of the opinion that the parties concerned must achieve national reconciliation, preserve Lebanon's independence and territorial integrity, and achieve the withdrawal of foreign forces.

With regard to the Palestinian issue, 'Ali said that during the meeting it was agreed that the Palestinian issue is the crux of the Middle East problem, and that it must be solved within the framework of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and the right of states to exist within secure borders. It was also agreed that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians. The PLO must be taken into account in the peace process. There is also an urgent need to reach agreement in the Jordanian-Palestinian talks to give a push to the peace process. There was agreement that the Israeli settlements are illegal and regarded as an Israeli obstacle in the way of peace and that Israel's actions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip cause tension between the Palestinians and Israel.

With regard to the Iraqi-Iranian war, the Egyptian and Greek sides agreed on the need to stop this war, because it is a destabilizing factor in the area and drains the resources of the two countries.

'Ali said that with regard to bilateral relations, there was agreement on solving the pending issues between the two countries since the signing of the 1980 protocol. It was agreed that a Greek delegation will visit Egypt to meet with a similar Egyptian delegation to discuss all the issues, such as trade exchange, employment, the affairs of the Egyptian community in Greece and Greek community in Egypt, and economic issues.

With regard to the Turkish-Cypriot crisis, 'Ali expressed the hope that all pending problems will be settled through negotiations.

Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din held a luncheon in honor of the Greek president and the delegation accompanying him.

Ceausescu Message to Mubarak Urges Conference
NC140814 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0645 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 14 Mar (MENA) — *AL-AHRAM* today says the message that President Muhammad Husni Mubarak recently received from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu in particular deals with the Middle East issue and calls for the convocation of an international conference to tackle this issue. The message also discusses bilateral realtions.

President Mubarak received Ceausesce's message during his 12 March meeting with the Romanian trade minister. The Romanian minister left Cairo yesterday.

Romania's Pungan Ends Visit, Departs Cairo
NC131546 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1505 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 13 Mar (MENA) — Romanian Foreign Trade Minister Vasile Pungan and his delegation left Cairo for home this afternoon after a 1-week visit to Egypt. During his visit, the Romanian minister held discussions on bilateral cooperation, particularly in the spheres of sea and land transportion and communications.

French Trade Minister Arrives in Cairo 12 Mar
NC140628 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 12 MAR 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 12 Mar (MENA) — Edith Cresson, French foreign trade and tourism minister, arrived in Cairo from Doha this afternoon on a 3-day official visit to Egypt.

Turkey's Industry Minister Arrives for Talks
TA130630 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 0430 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Industry and Commerce Minister Cahit Aral who is in Cairo met Prime Minister Ahmad Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din. The development of commercial and industrial cooperation between Turkey and Egypt was discussed.

ANATOLIA reports that Cahit Aral also met Egyptian Minister of International Investment and Cooperation Wajih Muhammad Shindi.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM Interviews Abu Ghazalah
PM131658 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 10 Mar 84 pp 3,14

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and War Production Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah by Sana' as-Sa'id in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] I asked Marshal Abu Ghazalah: Despite the recession in the oil market, military armament programs are still being carried out in view of the nature of the threats to the area. The question is: Can the accumulation of arms in the Middle East be of any use?

He replied: National security means safeguarding the state entity against the dangers threatening it internally or externally. It also means safeguarding state interests and creating the best conditions for achieving the lofty national objectives.

With regard to the Middle East region and our analysis of the military situation and the factors affecting it, we can see that there are several important phenomena. Most important of these is the arms race and rapid growth of military strength of most countries of the area, which is creating a certain military imbalance. This makes it incumbent upon any conscious military strategist to create a type of balance to counter any threat caused by such growth in these countries, and make any country think more than once before resorting to the use of force. I always say that weakness is an invitation to aggression.

I said: The inability to resolve Middle East conflicts, including the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Iraqi-Iranian war, has led to greater anxiety over security in the area. Is there a guarantee that the arms buildup will ensure political stability in the area? On the other hand, are there grounds for Israel's fear of the countries of the area?

The marshal said: Several factors affect stability in the area and therefore lead to the arms race. These include:

The vital nature of the Middle East region, which has made it, and still makes it, an area of conflict. That is our destiny. The attempt by certain powers to extend their influence to the countries of the area which pulls these countries toward polarization which in turn leads to an increase in regional disputes between these countries as a result of differences in objectives and conflicts of interest prompts certain parties to resort to armed force as the quickest means for attaining their objectives.

With regard to the second part of the question, I believe the Camp David agreement between Egypt and Israel is an example that can be emulated. If Israel wants to reach a similar solution with neighboring countries, it must realize that those countries have security demands just like its own demands. It should seek to encourage the moderate countries to pursue a peaceful solution with it to solve the problem and end the state of anxiety.

I said to the deputy prime minister: At the end of last January, the United States announced the sale of arms to Saudi Arabia and Egypt. At the end of this month, the U.S. Congress will approve the arms deal with Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Isn't this evidence of the resumption of the arms race in the area at a time when the countries of the region are becoming more concerned over their security?

Marshal Abu Ghazalah said: It must be stressed that security is a relative matter and is linked to potential threats. This is what prompts countries to develop their military potentials and obtain the appropriate capabilities to deter the sources of threat. We believe security is not built on wishes but on precise calculation of what is happening around us and on the basis of developing our security capabilities in accordance with the changing situation.

I told the deputy prime minister: It is said that supplying arms to Egypt is conditional on those arms being defensive in nature so that they will not be used against Israel. Meanwhile, we find this does not apply to Israel, which chooses what it wants and rejects any conditions imposed on it.

Marshal Abu Ghazalah said: I disagree with this. Our military policy of building Egyptian armed forces that are suitable for defense is based on several principles, which are as follows:

Constant monitoring of the intentions of the countries of the area and their military potentials so as to enable us to plan the necessary deterrent military force. The pursuit of a policy of arms diversification in accordance with our defense needs and not with the wishes of those who want to sell us arms. I believe we have succeeded in providing the Egyptian Armed Forces with advanced and effective arms and materiel from various sources.

I said: Arms supplies are used as a means to strengthen U.S. or Soviet influence in the Arab countries. How far can it be said that this applies to Egypt? How great is the U.S. influence in Egypt, and is it really commensurate with the amount of arms the United States supplies you with?

Marshal Abu Ghazalah replied: I must stress that the political leadership has on every occasion expressed its rejection of any form of influence, either from the East or West. I believe we will not deviate from this line. With regard to our view of the United States, we see it as a friendly state playing an effective and positive role with us on the basis of several factors, including the fact that Egyptian-U.S. relations are based on understanding, mutual respect, and noninterference in our affairs. We appreciate the positive and active United States role in the efforts to achieve a comprehensive peace in the area. Also, the United States understands our needs, and this is reflected in the economic and military aid it offers us.

I said: If Egypt is still toeing the U.S. line, this implicitly means it is ready to help achieve U.S. strategic objectives in the area. Would Egypt agree to participate in any force that would serve the U.S. interest similar to the Jordanian force that was recently announced and which, it is said, is being prepared to deal with any crisis that might arise in the Gulf?

Marshal Abu Ghazalah said: National security planners always seek to create the best conditions possible to ensure the interests of the state and a reduction of potential threats. In this regard, we seek to obtain maximum benefit from any positive factors that would contribute material or moral support for our security and defense capabilities, while keeping in mind the achievement of our national interests.

On the basis of this premise, we are trying to avoid falling into the sphere of international polarization, and indeed are seeking to spare the whole area from becoming the scene of superpower conflict. This is being made clear in all the president's statements. This is in addition to the fact that we develop our military capability in accordance with our military strategy, which is aimed at achieving the objective of deterrence and defense against aggression and enhancing Egyptian national security.

I said to the deputy prime minister: Egypt is still concerned about the intentions of Libya and Ethiopia and their designs. Do you fully support what President Numayri said — that Libyan and Ethiopian policies in Africa are only a screen for Soviet infiltration of the continent? Does this mean you remain sus

picious of the Libyan role in Africa, particularly in Chad and Sudan?

Marshal Abu Ghazalah replied: Sudan is Egypt's strategic depth and vital artery where the Nile is concerned. It is also the southern extension of our Red Sea coasts. Therefore, we consider any threat to Sudan a threat to Egyptian national security. There is no doubt that the obvious imbalance in the military forces in the area is a source of concern for us. Moreover, we have recently observed coordination between various forces in an attempt to threaten Sudan, which is part of Nile valley security. Egypt has a vital and strategic interest in ending the Sudanese-Ethiopian dispute in light of two important considerations: Egypt's responsibility for ensuring Sudan as its strategic depth and striving to achieve stability and establishing good-neighborly relations among all the countries of the Nile valley.

With regard to the Libyan role, particularly in Sudan and Chad, the personal ambitions of the Libyan regime's leader remain the same and are being exercised with the aim of containing the neighboring African countries whose interests are contrary to the Libyan regime's interests. This is being carried out by supporting terrorist movements, minorities, and revolutions, and bringing pressure to bear on the regimes of those countries so as to create disturbances and heighten tension in the area. Its no secret that overt Libyan interference in Chad is continuing with the backing of foreign influence. This interference has led to the failure of all attempts, whether by the OAU or the world community, to bring about national reconciliation. It has also led to the serious escalation of the military situation in both Sudan and Chad, which affects the stability of the regimes in the area, and gives the superpowers the chance to interfere in the area.

I said to Marshal Abu Ghazalah: You were quoted as saying that 50 percent of our forces are concentrated on our borders with Libya because we are worried about what the Soviets are doing beyond the borders. On the other hand, Libya has concentrated a terrific Soviet arms garrison on the Egyptian borders and built up its air force in air bases near the Egyptian borders. What is the truth behind all this, and what the current situation?

He replied: First of all, I did not say this, and no Egyptian official, including myself, has said that we have aggressive intentions against Libya. The stationing of Egyptian forces in the border area is within the strategy of the deployment of our forces to secure our borders, and has no aggressive objectives or intentions.

AL-AHRAM on Libya's 'Reconciliation' Attempts

NC140700 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 14 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial: "The Two-Faced", *AL-AHRAM* draws attention to the fact that Al-Qadhdhafi is replaying his old themes following his regime's failures in its terrorist campaigns abroad, and while his forces continue to be involved in Chad's war. He is intentionally slapping Sudan with one hand through his aid to the separatists in the south, while trying to extend the other hand to Egypt in a bid for reconciliation.

The paper explains that Al-Qadhdhafi's attempts fall under one principle: liberation. Al-Qadhdhafi is attempting to liberate Sudan — through its south — inch by inch, as President Numayri puts it, while simultaneously attempting to liberate Egypt by means of a massive march.

The paper adds that Al-Qadhdhafi is trying in vain to support the separatists in southern Sudan. Meanwhile, he attempts to spoil Egyptian-Sudanese integration efforts by naive means; namely, the 'Green March'. For the Egyptians, this march is hypocritical. The Egyptians still recall the hideous attempts to achieve unity by force.

The paper expresses its belief that the proper approach to reconciliation should begin with diplomatic contacts and proceed through legitimate channels to disclose the earnest desire — apart from untrue promises — to achieve a sober meeting between both presidents or leaders. Such a meeting should lay the necessary groundwork for rapprochement. When this is accomplished, such rapprochement can be made to grow, even into unity — if both peoples so agree by their free will.

Briefs

Trilateral Agreement Renewed — Cairo, March 11 (MENA) — Egypt, Yugoslavia, and India signed today an agreement on stepping up the volume of (?export) commodities between the three countries with 50 percent custom exemption. The agreement focused on projects of economic and industrial cooperation among the three countries in the domains of engineering, electronics, agriculture, and car manufacturing industries. The agreement will be valid till March 31, 1988. Meanwhile, today's accord had been previously signed in 1969 and is being renewed every five years. It is considered one of the major results of the Nonaligned Movement. [Text] [Cairo MENA in English 1210 GMT 11 Mar 84 NC]

Armed Forces Communique No 1,403 - 13 March

JN131745 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Communique No 1,403 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 13 March 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our courageous Armed Forces, which have devoted themselves to defending the national sovereignty and the dignity of the people and the homeland, are continuing to teach the Khomeyniite aggressors lessons in heroism and sacrifices and to inflict massive losses on their forces of aggression. The results of our operations last night and today are as follows:

1. Last night, one of our brave forward units intercepted an enemy force that tried to attack our positions east of Basra. A swift battle began in which all kinds of weapons were used. The enemy attack was defeated, and the attacking force was destroyed. The enemy forces sustained a great number of casualties, and the rest of its troops were forced to run for their lives. Our forces destroyed quantities of weapons, equipment, and hardware.

It has been determined that in addition to the enemy losses mentioned in our Communique No 1,402 on the enemy's abortive attack on our forces the day before yesterday, the enemy lost 1,095 dead and many more wounded. In addition, seven excavators, five vehicles, one bulldozer, five hardware stockpiles, and a great number of weapons and equipment destroyed.

2. Since this morning, our daring fighter planes carried out fierce, concentrated raids on enemy units, equipment, and troop assembly points opposite our forward positions east of Basra. Our planes scored very effective hits on the enemy, and inflicted massive losses in men and equipment on the aggressors and the remnants of their forces. All of the air raids were successful. Our planes returned safely and triumphantly to base. Our planes carried out 162 combat missions today.

3. Our capable helicopters attacked enemy positions and units east of Basra and scored direct, effective hits today. Our helicopters inflicted grave losses, including the destruction of eight personnel assembly points, three boats, and a number of various types of weapons and equipment. All of our helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God. Our helicopters carried out 52 combat missions today.

4. One of our brave units carried out a successful operation against enemy positions opposite our positions east of Tigris. Our unit successfully achieved its aims, and forced the enemy to flee from the battlefield. Our forces captured an enemy boat as well as a quantity of hardware and equipment.

5. Four were killed and three personnel assembly points and weapons emplacements were destroyed in the central sector of the front.

6. Using heavy artillery, the criminal Khomeyniite clique shelled Basra, Mandali, Zurbatiyah, and their environs yesterday and today. The shelling injured seven civilians and damaged a number of civilian establishments in Basra, and damaged a number of civilian establishments in Basra, and damaged civilian property in Mandali and Zurbatiyah.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 March 1984.

ATH-THAWRAH on Iran's 'Foiled' Aggression

JN130856 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0705 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — A local newspaper has stressed that the Iranian rulers' wagering on the military option regarding their aggression against Iraq has been completely foiled.

In an editorial today, *ATH-THAWRAH*, organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party says: What is taking place and what has taken place since the beginning of what the Iranian rulers have called the decisive battle tangibly proves that those rulers' wagering on their concentrations, whose numerical superiority they have continued to boast about, collapsed and that their evil dreams have dissipated.

Concluding, the paper stresses that the destruction of the recent Iranian offensive at the III Army Corps sector embodies once again Iraq's military and moral capability of decisively ending the battles in record time.

Oil Minister Meets With USSR's Ryabov

JN131401 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1222 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi met here today with Yakov Ryabov, CPSU Central Committee member and chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, who is currently visiting Iraq.

During the meeting, they reviewed areas of oil cooperation and the means to promote it by implementing a number of projects between Iraq and the Soviet Union.

Joint Economic Committee Meets

JN131509 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1257 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — Meetings of the 14th session of the Iraqi-Soviet permanent committee for economic and technical cooperation began here today. The Iraqi side was led by Minister of Industry and Minerals Subhi Yasin, and the Soviet side by Yakov Ryabov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations.

At the beginning of the meeting, Subhi Yasin made a speech in which he congratulated the head and members of the Soviet delegation on the silver jubilee of the signing of the first economic agreement between Iraq and the USSR. He praised the USSR's sincere efforts to promote the two countries' joint cooperation as well as the effects of these efforts on the large- scale development of Iraqi-Soviet relations, especially following the 1968 Iraqi revolution which was strengthened by the 9 April 1972 Iraqi-USSR friendship agreement.

The minister expressed confidence that the committee's 14th session will establish landmarks on the path of promoting joint relations, which will lead to implementing a number of industrial, agricultural, oil, and irrigation projects.

In a similar speech, Ryabov expressed pleasure that the session coincided with the 25th anniversary of the signing of the first Iraqi-USSR agreement on economic and technical cooperation. He described this agreement as a landmark in developing the two countries' economic and political relations, pointing out the great development in economic relations, which are an important factor in the Iraqi-USSR relations.

Ryabov said that the cordial Iraqi-USSR relations have successfully developed because they are based on respect for sovereignty and on noninterference by Iraq and the USSR in each other's internal affairs. He expressed his admiration for Iraq's achievements in the economic field, its anti-imperialist foreign policy, and its support for all initiatives to establish world peace.

Ryabov said that the Iraqi and USSR stands on world problems are very close and that the two governments place special emphasis on the strategic, long-term, and comprehensive development in their cooperation. He expressed confidence that the meetings of the 14th session will be practical and constructive, and will be conducted in an atmosphere of cordiality, friendship, and fruitful cooperation.

The session will discuss various topics, and will analyze both the achievements of the past period of cooperation and the prospects for this cooperation over the next 5-10 years. It will also deal with the possibility of the USSR implementing a number of important Iraqi economic projects, and with the signing of an economic and technical agreement between the two countries.

During today's meeting, a number of subcommittees were formed to discuss various issues and reach a final formula in the fields of oil, energy, irrigation, trade exchange, agriculture, industry, scientific cooperation, and cadre training.

The Iraqi side is comprised of Oil Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Mun'im Hasan 'Alwan, deputy head of the Iraqi side in the committee, and a number of directors of establishments in the fields of industry, oil, agriculture, economic, irrigation, science, and finance. The Soviet side is comprised of Lopatin and Takoyev, deputy ministers of the Ministries of Power and Electrification and Petroleum Industry, and a number of section heads in the fields of economy, agriculture, commerce, and finance.

Ramadan Receives USSR Ambassador 13 Mar
JN131545 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1525 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, today received Soviet Ambassador in Baghdad Viktor Minin. During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral relations and discussed economic cooperation and the means of promoting it through the meetings the joint Iraqi- Soviet committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation is now holding in Baghdad.

The two sides also stressed the need to continue meetings between the two countries' ranking officials in order to discuss all means of developing cooperation in all fields in order to serve the joint interests of the two friendly peoples.

Trade Minister Receives Hungary's Horvath
JN131035 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, met here today with Hungarian Interior Minister Istvan Horvath. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the cooperation relations between the two countries and the means of promoting them in the interest of the two friendly peoples.

The two sides also discussed the preparations for the meetings of the permanent joint Iraqi-Hungarian committee for economic cooperation which will begin in Baghdad next June.

Ramadan, Horvath Meet 13 Mar
JN131605 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received Dr Istvan Horvath, Hungarian interior minister, this morning. Bilateral relations between Iraq and Hungary were reviewed during the meeting, and both sides expressed satisfaction at the pace at which these relations are developing.

The first deputy prime minister stressed the importance of continuing efforts to expand the fields of cooperation between the two countries both now and in the future.

Ramadan pointed out the dimensions of the continued Iranian aggression against Iraq, and the Iranian rulers' expansionist intentions toward Iraq. Ramadan said that Iraq's march of development will witness continued growth in the next 2 years despite the war circumstances.

The Hungarian minister renewed his country's support and appreciation for Iraq's peaceful positions. He praised Iraqi progress in the construction field despite the war. He expressed his country's wish to promote cooperation with Iraq in various fields.

PRC President Ends 6-Day Visit 13 March
JN131245 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Amman — PRC President Li Xiannian and his wife left Amman this afternoon concluding a 6-day visit to Jordan at the invitation of His Majesty King Husayn. The PRC president was accorded an official send-off at Amman Civil Airport, and His Majesty King Husayn headed those who saw the president off.

The Army band played the Chinese and Jordanian national anthems and a 21-gun salute was fired in honor of His Majesty King Husayn and his great guest. King Husayn and President Li Xiannian inspected a guard of honor representing the Jordanian Armed Forces.

The PRC president was also seen off by Crown Prince Hasan, Princess Tharwat, the prime minister, the president of the Senate, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the court minister, the chief chamberlain, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, the ministers, a number of senior civilian and military officials, the dayen of the diplomatic corps in Amman, and the Turkish ambassador in Amman.

King Receives Senegalese Envoy, Message
JN131533 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Amman, 13 Mar (PETRA) —His Majesty King Husayn received in the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon Senegalese President Abdou Diouf's envoy Moustapha Cisse, who conveyed a message to his majesty the king from the Senegalese president dealing with cooperation between the two countries and the means of promoting Islamic solidarity.

During the meeting, they discussed the means of activating Arab-African cooperation in the service of the Arab and African peoples' interests. His Majesty King Husayn also invited President Abdou Diouf to visit Jordan. The date of the visit will be fixed by the two sides.

Chief of the Royal Hashemite Court Marwan al-Qasim attended the meeting.

AD-DUSTUR on Reagan Statements to Jewish Group
JN140857 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 14 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Candidate or a President," *AD-DUSTUR* says: Despite the fact that U.S. President Ronald Reagan is waging the battle of renewing his term in the White House, and is expected to flatter the Jewish vote and make more promises to Israel, what Reagan said yesterday before a U.S. Jewish organization goes far beyond the traditional statements made by presidential candidates and exceeds what all candidates should say to gain the support of the Jewish voters through an election campaign aimed at winning the support of racial groups which influence the presidency in Washington.

AD-DUSTUR continues: Ronald Reagan is the President of the United States first and the Republican candidate for the Presidential elections second. This means that any statement he makes is particularly significant on the level of presidential elections. Therefore, this gives his statement and stands dimensions that do not apply to the stands and statements of other candidates whose expected bias toward Israel are mere promises that can be partially or completely fulfilled when they take power at the White House. Thus, what President Reagan said yesterday cannot be interpreted as part of an election campaign or accepted as a transient stand of a Republican candidate seeking to renew his term at the White House for another 4 years. What is astonishing is that the U.S. President exploited moderation and moderate states for election purposes in front of a Jewish organization which is devoted to serving Zionist objectives. This harms moderation and will eventually lead to extremism which serves Israel's interests.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: The U.S. President during whose era the United States signed the first written strategic agreement with Israel, whose administration extended funds and military and economic support for the Israeli occupation, and who was impotent in putting his peace initiative into effect due to Israel's rejection, is expected to continue his flagrant bias toward Israel, make more promises and extend more support for Israel. However, this will eventually affect the U.S. credibility and interests in the region.

AR-RA'Y on Freezing West Bank Village Leagues
JN110955 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 11 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Collapse of Agent Leagues" *AR-RA'Y* says: Yesterday's decision to freeze the Village Leagues, by the remaining members of the agent leagues, is merely an admission of the failure of these leagues since their establishment.

The leagues have been isolated and rejected by the kinfolk in the West Bank and by all the Arabs. The law of our country condemned and outlawed the leagues and exposed their wicked aims as a tool of the occupation.

Our country and kinfolk were the first to sentence the leagues to death. They did not allow the leagues to play the political role that was designed for them by Israel as a substitute for the PLO, in other words a false front for the inhabitants of the occupied territories and a poisoned blade to be used to stab the unity of the Palestinian people.

Israel did not succeed in postponing the decision to freeze the leagues, a decision which was taken despite the financial aid of 1 billion shekels that Israel promised them. This failure in itself demonstrates the power of the siege around the leagues and the increasing resentment toward them by the leagues' remaining

elements. The kinfolk who have moved from steadfastness into action, represent the flood that cannot be overpowered or limited.

It goes without saying that the petition presented by the kinfolk to His Majesty King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat expressing their abidance by the joint Jordanian-Palestinian march, was the reverberating voice that declared the Palestinian will, whose essence is represented by the strong, pure will of those who are steadfast. This will cannot be falsified or bypassed in any manner or by any tool.

In light of this, there was no longer a way out for those involved with the Village Leagues except to declare the freezing of the leagues, hoping that someday this will help to gain the kinfolk's forgiveness. But this step, despite the implications, is not enough to cleanse the hands of those who are implicated and involved in the leagues. The remainder of the ugly tool, once supported out of ignorance or weakness, must be liquidated. Those involved must declare that they have nothing to do with the leagues and that they forsake them forever.

AR-RA'Y concludes: We hail the steadfast kinfolk in the occupied territories, who have been, and still are the beacon that reflects the hope and strength to foil the forgeries and defeat the tools of the usurpers.

Briefs

Parliamentary By-election Results — The following were elected members of the House of Representatives in the by-elections held in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan yesterday to fill the eight vacant seats for the East Bank of Jordan: Marwan 'Abd al-Halim an-Nimr al-Humud, Zuhayr Dhuqan al-Husayn, Fawzi Shakir Tu'aymah, engineer Layth Shubaylat, Dr Ahmad al-Kufahi, Dr 'Abdallah al-'Akaylah, Dr Riyad an-Nawayisah, and Dr Nazih al-'Ammarin. [Summary][Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 13 Mar 84 JN]

Further Reportage on Dialogue Conference

Khaddam Addresses Conference

NC131752 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1638 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Telephone dispatch from the Lebanese Information Mission in Lausanne, Switzerland — live]

[Excerpts] The third session of the National Dialogue Conference commenced a short while ago at the Beau Rivage Hotel in Lausanne under the chairmanship of President Amin al-Jumayyil. Attending the session are the national dialogue conferees, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, and Saudi Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mas'ud.

The second session began at 1120 Beirut time with a speech by President Amin al-Jumayyil in which he welcomed the Syrian vice president. Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam delivered a speech in which he conveyed Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's greetings and wishes for a successful conference. He said President al-Asad asked him to tell the conferees that Damascus reaffirms the principles that govern Syria's position and chart its policy. These principles are:

1. Lebanon must remain a unified, independent, and sovereign country. Its people must enjoy equal rights and duties. All Lebanese must be brothers, but the treatment they will receive depends on the efforts and sacrifices they make.

2. The dialogue is the sole road that must settle the existing differences. Stubbornness must not reign during the dialogue when flexibility is needed, and flexibility must not reign when stubbornness is needed. The first will obstruct the dialogue, and the second will torpedo it. Fighting can only reap killing, destruction, misery, fear, and fragmentation. We do not believe that this type of fighting would be in the interest of the homeland, despite the slogans raised by this or that side.

3. Syria is with you. Syria does not discriminate in its cooperation and relations with any side. Naturally, this depends on how much the other side reciprocates.

Khaddam added: We extend our hand for the sake of an Arab, unified, independent, and sovereign Lebanon. What counts for us is the termination of the dispute, the preservation of that fraternal country, and cooperation to establish peace, stability, and safety in Lebanon.

4. Everyone must be reassured about Syria's eagerness to preserve the closest fraternal relations with Lebanon because of the special ties that bind the two fraternal countries. Syria wants to be for all the Lebanese in as much as it wants to be for all the Syrians.

The Syrian vice president said aspirations for building an independent homeland require, first and foremost, that everyone must safeguard that homeland. The bloody dispute can never safeguard a homeland or protect a people. We now have a chance to salvage Lebanon. Therefore, you must not miss this chance as happened on so many occasions in the past, when the size of pains and losses grew bigger and the hopes for a secure future became smaller.

Khaddam conveyed to the conferees Syria's visualization on how the problems afflicting Lebanon should be solved. He praised the historical decision made by President al-Jumayyil and his government to abrogate the 17 May accord. That abrogation, Khaddam added, has eliminated a primary obstacle to the national dialogue.

Touching on the problems facing Lebanon, Khaddam said:

1. The Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon and its attempts to influence Lebanese decisionmaking. [sentence as heard]

2. All past developments and events that rocked Lebanon emphasized the need to introduce basic reforms in the country. I cannot define these reforms. This must be one of the primary topics of the national dialogue so that a national agreement will be reached on which the unified, independent, and sovereign future will depend.

3. The basic pressing issue is reconciliation. The return of the evacuees to their homes, and the restoration of security, stability, and tranquility require an in-depth discussion.

Khaddam added: A basic issue that must also receive your attention is the issue of the Army. This issue must be tackled with a high national spirit. An agreement on a national program requires the establishment of a national unity government to shoulder the responsibility of implementing this program. Khaddam pointed out that those who aggravated the security situation when the conference began yesterday must be condemned. If they wanted to convey a message, the message has been received and we understood its contents. However, they must understand that they are not the only ones who can convey messages. They also must understand that such methods do not serve Lebanon but Lebanon's enemies, and further complicate the situation. But if the message was sent by non-Lebanese sides, through certain tools which bear Lebanese nationality, we tell them that the message has been received and that we understood its contents. We tell them: You will only reap the thorns you are trying to plant in Lebanon, and you will never attain your objectives.

Following lengthy debates on various topics, Syrian Vice President Khaddam spoke again. He said: No one should submit to military extortion. You must understand that if the conference fails, Lebanon will cease to exist and everyone will die. Although some are dreaming of statelets, their dream will never come true. The region, Khaddam added, can no longer endure what is taking place in Lebanon. The price will be exorbitant. If there are people here who cannot force the gunmen to exercise self-restraint, we must know that now.

The most important thing the conference should adopt is a cease-fire. The conference must reach a cease-fire immediately. Khaddam proposed that the opposing sides sign a cease-fire agreement and abide by it.

[Amal Movement leader] lawyer Nabih Birri affirmed that the Amal Movement is adhering to the cease-fire and will abide by

all the steps that the conferees will take, provided the other sides follow suit.

Reacting to those who threatened to leave the conference if a cease-fire agreement is not reached, Birri said: We will not leave the conference, and will continue to work until a cease-fire agreement is reached and the reopening of the airport and port is secured.

He pointed out that the key to the solution is the south. Birri warned against Israel's practices in the area, and called on the sons of the south not to cooperate with Israel or to submit to its pressures. He strongly criticized the measures recently taken in the south by the sons of certain southern areas. He warned of the role being played by Major Sa'd Haddad's forces and their collaborators.

Junblatt spoke next. He stressed the need for all those present to sign a cease-fire statement. He said he places his weapons at the disposal of the Syrian observers to guarantee that he is abiding by the cease-fire.

President Amin al-Jumayyil spoke after Junblatt, affirming that the success of the conference would be a reply to all those trying to harm Lebanon. He said those commiting acts in the south are doing so because of their fears. He added the situation in the south will be tackled after the situation in Beirut and the suburbs is tackled. President al-Jumayyil called on the conference to issue a statement for a cease-fire to be signed by the four sides. An in-depth discussion took place on this.

Junblatt proposed that President al-Jumayyil sign the cease-fire statement. He was supported in this by lawyer Birri. However, some participants expressed the belief that the president is not obliged to sign because he is not a party to the dispute and has no militias. He is the president of ..l the Lebanese and is the arbitrator.

Leaders' Proposals; Franjiyah on U.S.

NC140809 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] What took place at the third session of the National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne? After a cease-fire decision was reached, the conferees began discussing the submitted working papers. The first speaker was [former] President Camille Sham'un, who submitted the joint Phalange-Liberal Party working paper. The paper includes a plan that makes Lebanon a federal republic. President Sham'un read the details of the plan after outlining the reasons behind the plan. It includes the following:

1. Adhering to Lebanon as it is in its present boundaries.

2. Recognizing it as it is within its sociological structure that classifies it as a multi-society.

3. Developing its institutions toward a federal system that suits this structure.

President Sham'un then outlined the features of the plan as follows:

1. Lebanon is an independent, Arab, and federal republic.

2. The federal state is composed of several districts. The administrative frameworks of these districts will be drafted at a later stage.

3. Lebanon constitutes a single territory from the economic, financial, and customs standpoints, and no barrier or restriction of any kind can be established within the federal state.

4. The federal capital is Beirut. It is the headquarters of the higher bodies of the federal state. The Federal Executive Authority will assume responsibility for foreign policy; foreign diplomatic representation; single currency; customs; state treasury; the system of levies and taxes owed the central government; national defense; civil and criminal laws; a civil personal status law; property ownership law; property ownership by non-Lebanese; and general planning policy.

[Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah then outlined a number of points to solve the Lebanese crisis. These are:

1. Ensuring the implementation of the decisions to be adopted by the National Dialogue Body.

2. Abolishing armed manifestations prior to dismantling the militia.

3. Defining the position toward Israel as to whether it is an enemy, friend, or brother.

4. Resolving the issue of illegal private radios.

5. Forming a special committee for internal arrangements. The conference should decide when the Army should be used to defend the homeland on the borders.

6. Releasing unconditionally detained people and returning the displaced to their homes.

7. Returning to the constitutional document, the decisions of the follow-up committee, the salvation document which he prepared, and the decisions and statements of the National Salvation Front regarding the questions of reform.

8. Establishing a committee to draft the national basis for the work of the official information media.

9. Reinforcing public liberties and canceling press censorship.

10. Suspending recent legislative decrees and canceling any of them that contradict the Constitution, Dialogue Conference resolutions, and public interest, and those that are confined to private interests.

11. Encouraging national resistance in the south.

12. Ending the Israeli occupation by supporting the resistance in

the south, and insisting on implementation of Security Council resolutions.

13. Creating a new citizenship law and a new elections law.

14. Paying attention to Lebanese expatriates.

15. Creating a stable and permanent cease-fire, and taking the necessary measures to make it succeed.

16. Determining the fate of the Dialogue Conference by deciding when it should end, and forming a follow-up committee.

Discussing the question of the Army, President Franjiyah called for a provision that specifies where, when, and against whom the Army will be used.

Referring to relations with the United States, President Franjiyah suggested to President al-Jumayyil that he ask Washington to exert pressure on Israel to withdraw, and if Israel does not withdraw within 1 month, diplomatic relations with Washington should be broken off.

[Damascus Television Service in Arabic at 1830 GMT on 13 March reports: "Khaddam praised Franjiyah's proposal that Lebanon should sever relations with the United States if Israel does not withdraw within a limited period of time. This proposal was also praised by President Amin al-Jumayyil."]

[Former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami, who spoke after President Franjiyah, stressed the need for unity and rejected the proposal to make Lebanon a federal republic. He called for the abolishment of political sectarianism. At this point, President Sham'un interrupted Prime Minister Karami and called for the abolishment of sectarianism as a whole and the application of secularism.

Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri raised the issue of Beirut's southern suburb, saying the shelling of the suburb led to the displacement of 215,000 people. He added: The 20 million pounds allocated for the suburb are not enough to pave one street. Birri then outlined the working paper he submitted. The paper proposes the following:

1. Returning to the armistice agreement to bring about the Israeli withdrawal and supporting the national resistance in the south.

2 Bringing to account those persons responsible for the events which occurred last month in the suburb, mountain, Beirut, and Al-Kharrub region.

3. Applying the second paragraph of Article 60 of the Constitution with regard to bringing to account the president of the Republic for violating the Constitution.

4. Canceling the legislative decrees and appointments made since the start of the current presidential term.

5. Canceling political sectarianism generally and completely.

6. Establishing a Senate.

7. Electing a president of the Republic by the Chamber of Deputies and Senate by a 55 percent majority vote for a period of 3 years and which can only be renewed once.

8. Electing the speaker and deputy speaker of the Chamber of Deputies for the term of the Chamber.

9. Electing the prime minister by the Chamber of Deputies by a relative majority.

10. Drafting a defense policy consistent with Lebanon's identity and Arab affiliation.

11. Entrusting a special committee of the National Dialogue Body,and giving it the broadest powers to command and administer the military establishment until the defense policy is drafted.

12. Forming a national unity government to implement the principles of national reconciliation as soon as these principles are approved.

Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam then called for abandoning any ideas that do not lead to positive results. He said everyone must make concessions for the sake of the homeland. If this homeland regains its health, he said, it has been won; but if the situation remains as it is, I am sure that everyone will lose. You must do everything so the homeland will return to what it was, even if you had to stay here for 10 years. You must not return to Beirut until agreement on a comprehensive solution to the Lebanese problem has been reached.

President al-Jumayyil then said [former] Prime Minister Salam and Walid Junblatt have not yet delivered their working papers. He hoped that the next session would be held at 1100 today.

Prime Minsiter Salam then delivered a speech in which he praised Khaddam's remarks. He urged everyone to tackle the issues calmly. He said he is prepared to stay in Lausanne as long as possible to solve the Lelianese problem, provided the cease-fire decision is implemented, because he wants to be reassured of the fate of the Lebanese people living in shelters.

Prime Minister Salam then outlined the memorandum he had submitted at the Geneva conference. The memoraandum includes the reform programs he thinks are necessary for a future Lebanon. He added to the subject of the cancellation of the legislative decrees and other subjects inspired by Islamic principles.

The Saudi minister then delivered a speech in which he said he was somewhat surprised by the issues raised during the session. He said he was very optimistic as a result of this meeting and stressed Saudi Arabia's support for any agreement reached here.

Finally, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt called for the establishment of a constitutional court. He said there is no personal dispute between himself and Pesident al-Jumayyil, but asked that those responsible for the recent events should be brought to account.

President al-Jumayyil then adjourned the session until 1100 Wednesday.

3d Session Ends; Agenda Approved

NC132149 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2050 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Telephone dispatch by Radio Free Lebanon correspondent from Lausanne — recorded]

[Excerpts] The National Dialogue Conference will resume its meetings tomorrow at 1100 Geneva time. The evening session ended at 1945. It approved a general cease-fire plan. It was content with the pledge made to abide by this plan, which was not signed. The plan was scheduled to take effect at 2000 Geneva time. There was a retreat on the need to sign the plan, and it was agreed to replace this signature by announcing a pledge to abide by the cease-fire decision.

The conferees approved the following agenda:

1. Ending the battles and their repercussions. The conference already dealt with this first point.

2. Liberating Lebanon.

3. Effecting national reform in the sectarian, political, administrative, security, economic, social, and development fields.

It was learned that President Amin al-Jumayyil was content with the views he expressed in his speech during yesterday's opening session.

The following submitted working papers: The Lebanese Front's working paper, submitted by [former] President Camille Sham'un; two working papers by Birri and Junblatt; two working papers by [former] Prime Minister Salam and [former] Speaker 'Usayran; and a view by [former] President Franjiyah and [former] Prime Minister Karami. They were all submitted during the evening session, and discussions on them begin tomorrow.

Phalange Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil will meet with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam tomorrow at 0900 Geneva time. It has been stated that Walid Junblatt met with President Amin al-Jumayyil tonight, but this has not yet been officially confirmed.

Michel Samahah, President al-Jumayyil's political adviser, said at his news conference that the president is conducting the conference's sessions in his capacity as the president of the state and arbitrator and not as the leader of one of the militias.

He described the atmosphere of the evening session [words indistinct]. It was characterized by sober and deep discussions. He said there is no ban [passage indistinct]. The mediators will hold meetings among themselves and with several sides. Regarding the agenda, Samahah said there are opinions and working papers concerning each point, and they will be discussed successively. These issues were raised within the framework of studying the main points of the agenda and of the working papers. It is not possible to achieve a detailed program for the conference through this, Samahah added: If the conferees decide to come out with a detailed program, then there is still time to do so.

In conclusion, Samahah said: All parties have pledged to implement the cease-fire decision. Intensive contacts were held between Lausanne and Beirut to initiate the cease-fire and make practical arrangements to stop the shelling, which has been going on in Beirut since the start of the conference.

Presidential Adviser on Session

NC132247 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] In an attempt to shed light on what took place during the third session of the National Dialogue Conference, Presidential Adviser Muhammad Shuqayr gave the following information:

Discussion on the cease-fire question was very thorough, strict, and determined. The cease-fire decision was only adopted after it was made certain that all parties would abide by it and be responsible for it.

Shuqayr added: The session was devoted to a submission by each group of their working papers, ideas, and points. After hearing all these ideas and opinions, it was decided to resume the sessions at 1100 tomorrow. The reason for this delay is to give all delegations sufficient time to hold bilateral contacts, which facilitate a collective agreement. What is reassuring is the determination of all that an agreement must be reached. Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has had an important role in this. He acted as the coordinator, and expressed a firm and decisive stand that an agreement must be reached and that Lebanon be rebuilt to restore its economic and cultural role, and even its political role, in the area. Khaddam said Lebanon, which is small in area and population, played the role of the great states in the economic, cultural, and political fields. It must return to the way it was.

Asked if the parties in Beirut have been informed that they must abide by the cease-fire decision, Shuqayr said: Yes. The representatives of the armed warring forces were asked to leave the hall. They made direct and quick contacts. The representatives then returned to the conference and reported that each one had informed his group that it must abide by the cease-fire as of 2100.

[Former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami addressed an appeal to the Lebanese saying: The dialogue, which we often advocated as an approach for detente and salvation, is now being held in Lausanne, as it was previously held in Geneva. This, in itself, is an accomplishment and a success because it has placed the solution along the right path.

Karami added: The optimism I spoke of before the meeting has been strengthened after these three sessions, during which a comprehensive and firm cease-fire, God willing, was reached. The dialogue is now focused on the political solutions to modernize our system and establish a new Lebanon in a manner conforming to the aspirations of its sons. No matter how many proposals are submitted at these sessions, only one thing is required at the

end. This means we must extricate the common denominators from all these working papers that are acceptable to all. This is not impossible as long as our objective is to achieve social justice and real democracy, safeguard rights, and consolidate justice and equality. Therefore, the political struggle we seek is what constitutes a guarantee for the continuation of stable conditions in our country.

Asked if he believes the dialogue has entered the more difficult stage after the cease-fire decision, Karami said: I believe we have entered the serious stage of discussing the right solutions, because the door of outbiddings was open before this stage. The dialogue is now confined to the four walls of the conference. Therefore, we are now seriously searching for what will unite us.

Government Spokesman on Meeting

JN141257 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1205 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The third session of the National Dialogue Conference ended a short while ago. Let us listen directly to Michel Samahah, official spokesman of the Lebanese presidential delegation, replying to reporters' questions.

[Begin recording] [Samahah] This morning's session lasted 1 and 1/2 hours. At the beginning of the session Walid Junblatt read the Progressive Socialist Party's working paper. Constructive discussions then commenced in a very positive atmosphere until the end of the session when the president suggested an adjournment. The conferees agreed to hold another session tomorrow morning and spend time in bilateral meetings among the various sides on the one hand, and between these sides and the president on the other, in order to agree to a joint paper that will be submitted to the conference tomorrow.

Regarding the cease-fire, it has thus far been holding in Beirut and all other Lebanese areas. The local Security Committee in Beirut has been working for 2 hours for the adoption of measures to consolidate the cease-fire and create a buffer zone between the sides.

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Samahah] The final session has not yet been fixed. The conference will hold further sessions. The next one will be held at 1100 tomorrow.

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Samahah] The buffer zone will be determined in detail by the Security Committee in Beirut.

[Unidentified reporters interrupting] Michel...

[Samahah continues] Four written papers were presented and the other sides presented their proposals verbally.

[Unidentified reporter] Has the airport been opened?

[Samahah] The airport cannot be opened before the Security Committee takes measures. This committee held its first meeting today.

[Unidentified reporter] We have learned that the cease-fire paper was presented by Khaddam and accepted by all.

[Samahah] The cease-fire paper was formulated by the conference, and at the conclusion of the session entrusted the Saudi and Syrian observers to put the final touches on it. They then presented the paper to the conference and it was approved as it is. [end recording]

Fourth Session Begins

NC141358 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Telephone dispatch by a member of the Information Ministry Mission to the National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne — live]

[Excerpts] The Information Ministry mission to the second stage of the National Dialogue Conference greets you from Lausanne. The fourth session of the National Dialogue Body began at 1115 Swiss time, 1215 Beirut time, under the chairmanship of President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. Members of the Dialogue Body, Syrian First Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Saudi Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mas'ud attended the session.

The first to speak at this session was Walid Junblatt, who delivered a speech on behalf of the Progressive Socialist Party.

Then [former] President Camille Sham'un spoke. He defended the plan he presented yesterday — that is, the plan for a Lebanese federal republic. [Former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami raised the issue of the abolishment of political sectarianism. President Sham'un again called for a comprehensive secular system. Prime Minister Karami retorted by accepting secularism, provided it does not contradict the Islamic religion, and by accepting any political reform which grants the same rights to all the Lebanese without exception. Prime Minister Karami also raised the problem of citizenship and the status of the Arabs of Wadi Khalid. [Former] President Franjiyah spoke at this point saying that the Arabs of Wadi Khalid once numbered roughly 4,500 persons, but when the issue of citizenship was opened their number rose to 6,000.

Then Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil spoke on the liberties of the Lebanese on their land. Then Khaddam spoke on the need to reach a decision for the good of Lebanon. [Former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam, lawyer Birri, and Walid Junblatt also took part in the discussion.

President al-Jumayyil adjourned the session at 1330, or just about 10 minutes ago. The fifth session will be held tomorrow at 1100 to allow time for consultations. I have learned that the Conference Secretariat has been entrusted with studying the various submitted working papers and trying to arrive at a single working paper combining all the submitted working papers.

President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil will hold a dinner banquet at 2030 Swiss time, or 2130 Beirut time, in the Beau Rivage Hotel in Lausanne in honor of Syrian First Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. It will be attended by the members of the National Dialogue Body and their advisers.

Junblatt Addresses Conference

NC141325 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1144 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Report on speech delivered by Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt to Lebanese Dialogue Conference in Lausanne on 14 March by unidentified correspondent on the Progressive Socialist Party radio]

[Text] Many papers have been presented since all the Lebanese — of every religious and political inclination — aspired to reform the political system. During the 40 years that elapsed since independence, the political system has become the opposite of what it was meant to be. We have presented many papers and some of these papers were rejected offhand. This happened at the time when the mountain was assaulted and humiliated by the ruling party's militia. Junblatt added: Some of these papers were (?wasted) for years when prominent and well-meaning personalities kept warning of past perils and future shocks; and before matters got out of hand. However, it seems that privileges blunt political as well as human sensitivity.

today in one paper which is presented on behalf of the members of the Progressive Socialist Party, the National Salvation Front, the allies of the Amal Movement, the supporters of the [Lebanese] southerners, and the heroes in whose name [former] Speaker 'Usayran speaks. There is a similarity of ideas and aspirations manifested through the contacts of all the patriotic leaderships regardless of political, religious, and intellectual diversity. This document presented by Brother and colleague Nabih Birri has clear headings: Rejecting division; liberating the south; removing party hegemony over the government; completely abolishing political sectarianism; rebuilding the Army on a national, Arab, and sound basis; and making necessary educational, social, and economic reforms.

He added: Most importantly, our joint national paper calls for bringing to account those responsible for the massacres, total destruction, and deviation of the authority and its usurpation of liberties.

He added: As I said yesterday, my demand for the resignation of the president of the Republic is based on this. He should be brought to account for violating the Constitution, just as the Constitution stipulates.

Junblatt added: When we return from Lausanne to the destroyed suburb, to wounded Beirut, to the bleeding mountain, will we take a trash can with us in which we placed the ideas which today express future aspirations? Will we return with a fragile cease-fire to be added to previous setbacks?

He said: I say frankly that we shall not retreat this time from the reasonable limit represented by our legitimate aspirations for equality. I will not agree to return to Lebanon to tell the people: Let bygones be bygones with regard to the presidential responsibilities; I will not agree to return and tell them: We could not do more with regard to reforms. I will not agree to return and say with regard to the south that the question of liberation is indefinitely postponed. He said: In addition to our joint national paper, I underline the following:

1. In the face of the federal plan, we call for the declaration of the Lebanese Arab Republic.

2. In the face of hegemony, we insist on the removal of the effects of this regime's assault on the laws, individuals, funds, and on pursuing the [word indistinct] wherever they may be.

3. In the face of the privileges, we insist on the need to completely abolish political sectarianism after the rights of the wronged communities are settled.

4. In the face of the domination of the president of the Republic, or in case there is insistence on perpetuating the presidential system, even as a custom ('urfan), we propose the establishment of a Presidential Council elected by the people. The chairmanship of this council would be on a yearly rotational basis.

5. In case there is insistence on the principle of communal distribution in popular representation, we shall not give up the demand for holding a general census and adopting public referendums to decide fateful issues. In any case, we will not for a moment accept the maintenance of sectarianism in jobs on whatever level they may be.

6. With regard to the use of the Army for internal suppressive purposes, we insist on the immediate formation by this [National Dialogue] Body of a committee to be entrusted with rebuilding the Army according to a defense policy consistent with our conditions and affiliation, and to be given authority, until this rebuilding process is completed, to command and administer the military establishment.

Junblatt added: These proposals are not a transient maneuver; they are an approach to the roots of the Lebanese problem, which is not — as some try to picture it — a problem of minorities, but the problem of a majority which was dominated by a minority and is still being dominated.

Gentlemen: Just as Lebanon cannot but be independent and Arab, we will only accept it as free and democratic.

Further on Deliberations Over Cease-Fire

PSP: Al-Jumayyil Signs Cease-Fire

NC131917 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Following Amin al-Jumayyil's refusal to sign the cease-fire decision proposed by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam at the second session of the Lausanne conference, and as a result of the insistence by Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri on considering Amin al-Jumayyil a party to the

conflict and not as an arbiter, Amin al-Jumayyil gave in to the consensus and signed the cease-fire statement.

Our correspondent in Lausanne reported that Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri ordered the fighters of the Progressive Socialist Party and Amal Movement to completely abide by the cease-fire.

'Text' of Cease-Fire Agreement

NC131848 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1813 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Telephone dispatch from the Information Ministry team in Lausanne, Switzerland — live]

[Text] Michel Samahah announced a short while ago, on behalf of the official Lebanese delegation, the official statement on the cease-fire agreement reached during the evening session of the National Dialogue Conference. The following is the text of the official statement as was announced a few minutes ago here at the Beau Rivage Hotel in Lausanne.

The conference discussed the security situation in Lebanon and what the citizens are being subjected to as a result of this situation, which is threatening the life of the citizens and their property, as well as the life of the country and its future. The conference decided the following:

1. All warring parties will be asked to observe a comprehensive and accurate cease-fire as of 2100 tonight, 13 March 1984 — 2100 Beirut time, 2000 Lausanne time.

2. The Security Arrangements Committee will be reformed on the highest possible military level of the parties belonging to it. The committee will meet in Beirut tomorrow morning. It will be given the widest powers to consolidate the cease-fire in a final way and to adopt all the necessary arrangements for this.

3. Committees to observe the cease-fire will be formed from retired military and Internal Security Forces members. They will be attached to the Security Arrangements Committee. The state will provide them with all means of communication and movement.

4. The Security Arrangements Committee will separate the combatants on all fighting fronts. The distance of the buffer zone will be defined in a balanced way and manner avoiding clashes.

5. The airport and port will be reopened. The Security Arrangements Committee will adopt the necessary measures to implement this decision.

6. All types of propaganda campaigns among the combatant parties will cease.

Moreover, the conference has taken note of the pledge made by the concerned parties committing themselves to give strict instructions to their fighters to accurately and seriously abide by the cease-fire, as well as of their pledge not to return fire for an appropriate period if their areas come under fire. They will inform the Security Arrangements Committee of these violations, and the committee will then carry out an investigation and adopt the necessary measures.

Lebanese Forces' on Cease-Fire

NC140719 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Regarding the cease-fire [decision announced in Lausanne], a Lebanese Forces' source has said that these forces agree in principle on the cease-fire and do not object to the revival of the Security Arrangements Committee or to the formation of committees comprising retired military personnel and Internal Security Forces to monitor the cease-fire.

The same source explains that the Lebanese Forces support the principle of reopening the airport and port, provided the access roads are 100 percent safe for all employees and citizens, and that this subject is discussed by the Security Arrangements Committee. However, these forces refuse a parallel withdrawal from the contact lines — not even so much as 1 meter — because the positions proposed for these forces' withdrawal are in Christian residential areas, and because the citizens of these areas need the Lebanese Forces to protect them and ensure their safety.

The Security Arrangements Committee, which is scheduled to meet in Beirut, will take up headquarters in the Museum area. Its members will be Jean Ghanim from the Lebanese Front; Wahbi Abu Fa'ur from the Progressive Socialist Party; Ayyub Humayyid from the Amal Movement; and Jean Nasif from the Lebanese Army. Within this context, a senior Lebanese official in Lausanne is quoted as saying that France will probably be invited to participate in the committee for monitoring the cease-fire announced by the Dialogue Conference, but that this participation will be limited to a specific period of time.

Takes Effect 1900 GMT

NC131807 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1802 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Dispatch from the Lebanese Information Ministry mission in Lausanne — live]

[Excerpt] We have just learned that during the session that convened at 1830, Beirut time, the conferees reached an agreement on an all-out cease-fire throughout Lebanon. The National Dialogue Conference participants agreed on the need for establishing a cease-fire effective 2100, Beirut time [1900 GMT], that is, 1 hour from now.

Cease-Fire Holding

NC132011 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Guarded calm prevails on all combat axes in observance of the cease-fire decision that the National Dialogue Conference adopted earlier today.

Security Committee To Meet

NC140630 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The cease-fire decision, which was announced in Lausanne, did not see the light in Beirut. Contacts and consultations were intensified to consolidate the decision and enable the conference to proceed with discussing the reform plans submitted by the conferees.

These contacts succeeded and the cease fire went into effect shortly after 2100 yesterday. Earlier, extreme tension prevailed, and shells fell on residential quarters in more than one area close to the contact lines.

Up to this hour, the cease-fire was still holding despite intermittent bursts of gunfire and occasional explosions on the contact lines.

The Security Arrangements Committee is expected to meet today in Beirut to draw up the necessary arrangements for a general and absolute cease-fire in implementation of the Lausanne agreement. It has been learned that the committee members held contacts among themselves last night. These contacts will be resumed today to agree on the time and place of the meeting.

Further on Opposition Statements, Policies

Junblatt, Birri Remarks Cited

NC131854 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1743 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt held a news conference in Lausanne at 1545 today in which he commented on all aspects relevant to the National Dialogue Conference. He said he doesn't want to torpedo the conference, but people are being killed daily in Lebanon. He said: I want to save those people. Therefore, what is required is honesty, particularly since Amin al-Jumayyil is the representative of a fascist party that holds power. Junblatt added: We cannot reach an understanding with a fascist party whose representatives staged a comedy in Geneva. This time, I will not allow a new comedy in Lausanne, he said.

On the fate of the cease-fire agreement, Junblatt said: Amin al-Jumayyil must sign the cease-fire agreement. Replying to a question on the Syrian stand, Junblatt pointed out the following points: Syria wants a cease-fire, but takes the Lebanese opposition's stand into consideration. He added: Our relations with Syria are very good. If I were given the choice between a fascist Lebanon and Syria, I would choose Syria in order to establish a democratic and Arab Lebanon. Junblatt said: We have good relations with Syria and coordinate with it militarily and politically.

Responding to another question, Junblatt said: We cannot reach an understanding with a fascist trend in Lebanon, one that does not even represent the Christians it claims to represent. For this reason, Amin al-Jumayyil must be put on trial. There is no way to avoid this. In France, for instance, Laval was executed after World War II. Amin al-Jumayyil must be put on trial and the responsibilities for all the crimes committed must be specified. Junblatt further said: We will continue the struggle to achieve the political reforms for which the Lebanese people have struggled. I do not think a national unity government can be formed until after Amin al-Jumayyil pays the price for his crimes; that is, after he is put on trial. Also required is the establishment of a higher court, even if this would necessitate seeking the help of international judges.

Responding to a question on the conference [words indistinct], Junblatt said: [sentence indistinct] We want a dialogue and the conference's success, but part of Beirut has been destroyed, in addition to the southern suburb and mountain. Amin al-Jumayyil is responsible for all this. He added: I never said this conference is one of reconciliation. I do not expect more than a relative calm. Ask the Phalangists why they aren't embarking on a thorough reform of the regime. Junblatt asked why every Lebanese does not have the right to become president. Why this segregation in Lebanon, as in South Africa? I am a progressive socialist who will only accept reform. He said that Lebanon will put both Amin al-Jumayyil and his father on trial one day.

Responding to a question on the negotiations [words indistinct] and the continuation of battles in Lebanon, Junblatt said: Remember the Vietnam war. The US. bombardment of Hanoi was continuing at the same time the Vietnamese and Americans were negotiating in Paris. After Amin al-Jumayyil exchanged greetings with Nabih Birri, the latter told him: The plot is continuing. It seems that the abrogation of the [17 May agreement] is not final, because you are implementing it through the ongoing plot in the south, the violation of the cease-fire, and the failure to sign the decision to consolidate calm and stability. Birri said: Yesterday's shelling was political and aimed to torpedo the conference. You used the Israeli means and failed. You did not enable the Arab option to pass without placing obstacles and raising differences over it. Birri told Al-Jumayyil: I want to know Camille Sham'un's responsibility for [words indistinct]. He condemned the presence of the Lebanese Forces in the border area and their persistent attempts to strike at national unity there. These forces did not learn the lesson of the mountain. He said these forces are preparing alternatives to national unity in the south.

Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has insisted that Amin al-Jumayyil sign the cease-fire decision, because he is a party to the conflict in Lebanon. Earlier, Khaddam proposed that the conference call for a cease-fire, which Amin al-Jumayyil, his father, and Camille Sham'un rejected.

Junblatt Raps Al-Jumayyil Stand

NC131637 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The second session of the Lausanne conference ended shortly before 1500 today. The discussions centered on the need to establish a comprehensive cease-fire that would be honored by everyone.

Following the conclusion of the session, it was observed that Walid Junblatt came out sullen and absentminded. He told reporters that President al-Jumayyil refuses to sign the statement [not further specified] because he considers himself an arbitrator, while Junblatt considers him a party [to the conflict]. If Al-Jumayyil insists on his position, Junblatt added, the conference will be torpedoed.

Junblatt further said: Amin al-Jumayyil and Pierre al-Jumayyil must be tried. If the Syrians wish, then let them stop the supply of arms and ammunition to me.

[Former] President Camille Sham'un affirmed that a cease-fire agreement has been reached, and that an official statement will be issued in this regard.

The Saudi observer conveyed King Fahd's wishes for the success of the conference and for reaching agreement. He stressed the unity of the Lebanese people and land, and emphasized that Lebanon must regain its security and stability.

Lebanese Front Paper Scored

NC132100 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The third round of the dialogue in Lausanne ended tonight. It was agreed to resume the dialogue at 1100 tomorrow.

In addition to the cease-fire announcement, the Lebanese Front submitted its working paper. [Former] President Franjiyah and [former] Prime Minister Karami opposed the working paper submitted by the Lebanese Front. Franjiyah said: Lebanon is need of unity and not of a federation.

Nabih Birri said: The current phase requires decisive stands to save Lebanon. We have had enough vituperations and sermons from here and there.

[Former] Prime Minister Salam expressed his readiness to stay in Lausanne until an agreement is reached, provided the cease-fire is honored. The Saudi observer repeated his hope that positive results will be achieved. Walid Junblatt demanded the formation of a constitutional court. He did not comment on the Lebanese Front's working paper.

Further on Contacts Outside Conference

Al-Jumayyil, Junblatt Meet

NC132222 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Peripheral contacts at the Lausanne conference intensified tonight. Several difficulties regarding the reaching of an agreement and national accord were surmounted. Within this framework, President Amin al-Jumayyil received Walid Junblatt at his special wing in the Beau Rivage Hotel. They held talks described as very important.

Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met with [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri in the presence of Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri. The conferees discussed the working papers submitted for discussion at the conference.

President Amin al-Jumayyil has sent invitations to a dinner banquet to be hosted Wednesday night in honor of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam on the occasion of his appointment to his new post. The Dialogue Conference leaders and their delegations will attend the banquet.

Franjiyah's Contacts Noted

NC140836 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Within the context of the Lausanne conference, [former] President Franjiyah has met with the envoy of the French minister of external relations in the presence of Robert Franjiyah. Franjiyah also met with Syrian First Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Franjiyah hosted a dinner last night at his residence in (Glanz). It was attended by Syrian First Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; Saudi delegation head Shaykh Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mas'ud; and [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam.

Robert Franjiyah met yesterday at his suite in the Beau Rivage Hotel with Richard Palmer, British charge d'affaires in Lebanon. They discussed what is taking place at the Lausanne conference.

Saudi Official, Khaddam Meet

LD132046 Riyadh SPA in English 1934 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Lausanne, Switzerland, March 13, (SPA) — Saudi Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud met here tonight with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam at his residence in the city. They reviewed issues on the agenda of the Lebanese National Reconciliation Conference now in progress in Lausanne.

Christians Reject Nation's Arab Identity

NC132205 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2145 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Christian officials met tonight at the Lebanese Forces headquarters under the chairmanship of [Lebanese Forces Commander] Fadi Afram. They issued a statement rejecting all forms of weakness [ad-dinniyah]. They emphasized the determination to follow the steps of leader Bashir al-Jumayyil and the line of resistance. The conferees will work for the creation of a national establishment, including the Christian officials, in order to express their feelings and defend their rights. The Christian officials rejected Lebanon's Arab identity.

Khalid, Mahdi Shams ad-Din Issue Statement
NC131437 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Shaykh Hasan Khalid, mufti of the Lebanese Republic, and Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Council, have issued the following joint statement:

Beirut, the southern suburb, and most areas in Lebanon have endured a horrible night in view of the criminal indiscriminate shelling, which is unprecedented in the history of war and unacceptable by any human conscience or religious creed. Innocent people fell as a result of the bestial shelling.

Today's papers published pictures showing the tragedies of bereaved families and those forced to rush to shelters. All of this has taken place while opposing sides in Lausanne reached a decision to end the war, halt fire, and establish understanding.

The Lausanne Dialogue Conference's failure thus far to halt the bloodbaths in the homeland and safeguard the dignity and value of the individual — which are still being violated — portends an impending enormous danger which would lead the homeland and citizen to the abyss. This failure would also assist the Israeli enemy in concocting plots against the south and its sons, and would contribute toward the destruction of the homeland.

In the name of the true religion, which defends the dignity of man and sanctity of life, we appeal to the combatant sides to immediately respond to the call for ending the state of war and establishing an immediate cease-fire. We also appeal to the leaders of the armed groups to respond to the call of the innocents, and meticulously abide by the cease-fire agreement.

They should be beware of the judgment of the innocent people, public opinion, and history. God will not have mercy on the oppressors. Let every man know that he will be brought toaccount for all his crimes one day. Let us fear God Almighty at this fateful stage of Lebanon's history. Let our deeds be sincere and honest for the sake of God Almighty and for the sake of man's safety and Lebanon's unity and dignity.

Beirut Radio on Israeli Movements in South
NC131529 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Israeli armored cars were rotated between Israeli positions in Tallat Mar Ilyas, the Government House in Sidon, and the Israeli troop concentration in Az-Zahrani. The Israeli forces constructed new positions near the (Msariyah) crossroad and in Khayzaran, along with control towers and barriers.

IDF Reinforcements to West Al-Biqa' Reported
NC140838 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Yesterday the Israeli occupation forces permitted dockers in Sidon to unload the freighter *Jamal Bayk* after banning its unloading for many days. The cargo includes quantities of flour for the economy minister. The occupation forces have given permission to the freighter's skipper, but sea conditions have prevented the unloading which will begin when the weather improves.

Security reports have indicated that the closure by the occupation forces of the Krum-Wadi Al-Hawr-Marj 'Uyun-Hasbayya-Al-Hasbani-Rashayya al-Wadi Road is due to the fact that these forces began to dispatch huge vehicular reinforcements to the Western Al-Biqa' front during the past 48 hours. It has been noticed that moving the reinforcements to the front was intensive during the night, and slackened somewhat during the day. Yesterday Israeli bulldozers were seen digging trenches near the Tall an-Nahas police post some 2 kms from the Israeli town of Metulla.

The occupation forces have removed the security cordon imposed on 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp, after raiding the camp for 9 hours, and have permitted its inh.bitants to move around.

Papal Envoy Brini Departs Beirut 13 March

NC131408 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Papal envoy Mario Brini and his accompanying delegation left Beirut this morning. Brini held a series of meetings with political and spiritual leaders in Lebanon, and conveyed messages from his holiness the pope to the Lebanese and Syrian presidents.

Brini expressed the hope that the Lebanese will forget their hatreds, and reach an understanding to rebuild the homeland.

Rif'at al-Asad Meets USSR's Aliyev 13 Mar

JN131707 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Vice President Dr Rif'at al-Asad received this morning Geydar Aliyev, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and member of the CPSU Politburo, and the delegation accompanying him. The meeting was attended by Faruq ash-Shar', minister of foreign affairs, and Vladimir Yukhin, USSR ambassador in Damascus.

Aliyev congratulated Dr Rif'at al-Asad on his new post and on the trust placed in him by President Hafiz al-Asad. He wished him success in bearing his responsibilities in the difficult circumstances in which Syria is facing the imperialist-Zionist aggression against the Arab nation under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad. Aliyev expressed his great appreciation of President Hafiz al-Asad's pronounced role in facing the imperialist-Zionist aggression and in deepening and strengthening Syrian-Soviet relations.

Dr Rif'at al-Asad thanked Aliyev for his congratulations, stressing his pride in the trust placed in him by President Hafiz al-Asad, who represents our national values and is our example in bearing responsibility. Rif'at al-Asad praised Syrian-Soviet relations, and pointed out the importance of deepening and strengthening these relations under the two great leaders, Hafiz al-Asad and Konstantin Chernenko.

Communique on Aliyev Visit

For Soviet coverage of the visit to Damascus by CPSU Politburo member Geydar Aliyev, including TASS and PRAVDA versions of the 10 March dinner speeches by Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam and Aliyev, and the joint communique on the visit, carried by PRAVDA and identical with the Damascus Television version broadcast at 1833 GMT on 14 March, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 12 March Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

TISHRIN: No Cease-fire Violations To Be Tolerated

JN141035 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 14 Mar (SANA) — In a comment today, the newspaper *TISHRIN* says that Syria will not tolerate attempts to violate the cease-fire in Lebanon and that it is serious in providing the means to entrench the cease-fire regardless of the price and sacrifices. The paper adds: Undoubtedly, those who intend to continue their attempts to disrupt the security situation are aware of the fact that Syria means what it says and that it implements what it says, because opening fire does not only mean shedding Lebanese blood, killing Lebanese citizens, and harming their legitimate right to live in peace and tranquility, but also its a threat to the homeland's unity — people and land — a direct connection with the enemy, and a retreat from what was agreed during the first round of the dialogue conference, namely, Lebanon's Arabism and its pan-Arab identity.

The paper continues: Those who still hope to repeat their attempts and continue the disruption of the security situation will not be able to achieve what they want, because Syria considers that this will affect its national security and the Arab nation's security, given that the continuation of fighting is a direct aggression against Lebanon's unity and national and pan-Arab identity, and that any encroachment on this unity and identity means the continuation of these attempts to drive a strategic wedge in Lebanon which would threaten the security of Syria and the entire Arab nation.

Concluding, *TISHRIN* says: It is time to cool the hot heads and cut the fingers that press on the triggers of the rifles that are directed against the homeland's sons. Will they be aware of what Syria is telling them before it is too late, or even before they realize that there is not time for regret and forgiveness?

AL-BA'TH on Attempts To Disrupt Lausanne Talks

JN140916 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0745 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Damascus, 14 Mar (SANA) — The newspaper *AL-BA'TH* says: The disruption of the security situation in Lebanon at a time when the Lebanese are continuing their dialogue to bring Lebanon to the shore of safety definitely proves that the agents of Israel and the United States are the only sides that stand behind this disruption in an attempt to hamper any solution to the crisis.

In a comment today under the headline "The Lausanne Conference and the Attempts To Foil it," *AL-BA'TH* adds: Israel which was infuriated by the abrogation of the 17 May agreement has used all its political and military means to fragment Lebanon. Moreover, it did not suffice for Israel to urge its agents to torpedo the security situation at a time when the Lebanese are holding a dialogue in Lausanne, so Israel has mobilized its diplomats in Lausanne in an attempt to affect the course of the dialogue conference through those who insist on detaching Lebanon from its Arab environment so as to turn it into an Israeli-U.S. protectorate. The paper points out: Undoubtedly, there are great difficulties facing the dialogue conference in Lausanne. However, a people who defeated the Israeli aggressors and the evil U.S. plans will inevitably surmount all the difficulties facing them.

AL-BA'TH, ATH-THAWRAH Comment on Lebanon

JN140713 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Press review]

[Text] Today's press commentaries and analyses deal with the Lebanese situation and the Lausanne conference.

In its editorial today, *AL-BA'TH* says: In the wake of the new changes represented in the tremendous victories scored by the Lebanese forces and Syria over the enemies of Lebanon and its Arabism and after Syria had performed its pan-Arab duty toward Lebanon throughout the past years, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam yesterday emphasized that Syria is for all

the Lebanese as much as it is for all the Syrians, adding that dialogue is the only solution to the crisis, that the continuation of fighting is not in the interest of Lebanon, that the political situation cannot be settled through a military solution and coercion, and that the victor in a country that is being burned and fragmented will remain vanquished.

AL-BA'TH adds: Out of this understanding of the nature of matters Syria is dealing with the Lebanese events and the various Lebanese sides. When stressing that it is ready to exert every effort and offer every sacrifice in order to underline Lebanon's Arabism and unity of both land and people — as expressed by its comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad — Syria will not allow and support whatsoever and under any circumstances a return to the previoussituation in Lebanon. Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* says: The Lausanne conference is the touchstone of the sincerity of the conferees' desire to build an independent homeland void of any grudge, prejudice, or defect. The conferees should lay down all the bases for the establishment of a homeland that guarantees the rights and freedom of all.

At the end of its morning commentary, the newspaper *ATH-THAWRAH* emphasizes Syria's pan-Arab stand and says: Syria is now standing alongside all the Lebanese. It trusts all because it realizes that this trust is the power that can rescue Lebanon from its ordeal and put it on the right road. Syria has embodied this quality through practice and action. The large and continuous sacrifice Syria offered to Lebanon is still being offered. By calling on the Lausanne conferees to seize the salvation opportunity that is available to them, Syria proceeds from its great desire to maintain Lebanon's unity, independence, and sovereignty.

AT-TALA'I' Condemns Acceptance of UN Resolution 242

JN140835 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Palestine Broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brother strugglers, this week's issue of the *AT-TALAT*, the magazine of the As-Sa'iqah organization and the PLO, was published today. The magazine's editorial is entitled "The Palestinian People Have Nothing To Do With This." In this editorial, *AT-TALAT* says: Following the talks between Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn and the Jordanian regime's officials, the talks which were termed as a Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, the Jordanian regime bared its fangs; that is its intentions against the Palestine question and the Palestinian Arab people and their inalienable national rights, headed by the right of self- determination.

At the end of these talks between King Husayn and 'Arafat, the Jordanian Government issued a statement in which it said that the talks centered on reaching a Jordanian-Palestinian formula for joint action that can be backed by the Arab states and so forth. Certainly, this formula will not consider armed struggle as a means of liberation. Certainly also, this formula will not seek the establishment of an independent Palestinian national state on any liberated part of the Palestinian Arab territory. What then is this formula that the Jordanian regime wants to serve as a basis for joint action with the PLO?

The Jordanian statement was not specific about this formula. It did not explain it even in general terms. Still, this formula has become clear from what was said during the 'Arafat-King Husayn meeting and by several Jordanian officials. These Jordanian gentlemen said that Jordan believes that UN Security Council Resolution 242 is the appropriate formula now. Therefore, matters have been exposed. The part dealing with the Palestinian people in this resolution does not speak about the Palestinian people or the Palestine question, but about what it termed the refugee question.

Everyone knows that the Palestinian people's political efforts throughout the past decade have been devoted to cancelling Resolution 242 and replacing it by a new one that clearly and specifically provides for the Palestinian people's rights, especially their right to determine their own destiny and establish their independent national state. All these years, Palestinian political struggle backed by the Palestinian rifle, was geared to this objective. Therefore, when the Jordanian side speaks about this Security Council resolution as the only basis for solving the Palestine question, this clearly and painfully means that the Jordanian regime absolutely refuses to recognize the Palestinian Arab people's right to determine their own destiny and to establish their independent national state. By adopting such a stand, the Jordanian regime supports Israel's claim that there is no Palestinian people, and therefore no Palestinian rights, and that there is only a refugee problem which can be solved by a handful of dollars via UNRWA, for instance, or even any U.S. welfare society.

This is the substance of the Jordanian stand. It is to recognize Israel and to beg it to return some parts of the West Bank, which the Jordanian regime could not properly defend, so as to dominate those parts once again. The only role Jordanian regime wants for the PLO is to concede to that regime's mean and lowly ambitions. Needless to say, therefore, the acceptance by any Palestinian of UN Security Council Resolution 242 as a formula for solving the Palestine question — an acceptance that would lead to cancelling the Palestinian people's rights to determine their own destiny and establish their independent national state — would, in fact, mean the cancellation of the Palestinian National Charter and the resolutions of Palestinian national councils which are definitely harmonious with this charter and reflect its spirit.

Therefore, any agreement between the Jordanian regime and any Palestinian side on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 242 will only mean the condemnation of those who concluded such an agreement. Furthermore, such an agreement will not be binding on the PLO. In short, the Palestinian Arab people will have nothing to do with such agreements.

Shamir Remarks on Diplomatic Relations With USSR
TA140634 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says that the Soviet Union is not maintaining diplomatic relations with Israel because it hates the Jewish people. Speaking during a rally in solidarity with Soviet Jewry, Yitzhaq Shamir says that Moscow has never logically explained to Israel why it does not maintain diplomatic relations with it:

[Begin Shamir recording] They maintain relations with countries which are the most reactionary in the world, according to Soviet criteria. They do not want to maintain any relations or ties with only one country, and this is the State of Israel. Many countries in the world have defense pacts with the United States. These defense pacts are explicitly directed for defense against the Soviet Union. Despite this, the Soviet Union maintains diplomatic, economic and cultural relations — and sometimes even more than this — with all of these countries. It is only the State of Israel which is discriminated against. [end recording]

Text of Shamir Address to Knesset 12 March
TA131113 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 12 Mar 84

["Full text" of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's address to the Knesset on 12 March reviewing the activities of the prime minister's office and the Foreign Ministry]

[Text] The past year has been one of stabilization and improvement in Israel's foreign relations and international standing. The criticism directed against us abroad due to Operation Peace for the Galilee became more moderate and even ceased, as the problematic nature and complexity of the Lebanese issue were revealed to all. In this context, the violent division which broke out in the terrorist camp, the attacks on the central government and on Beirut which caused the subjugation of the president of Lebanon by Syria and the unilateral abrogation of the May 1983 agreement — were especially prominent. These developments, which were accompanied by constant bloodshed, and the extreme vicissitudes in Lebanese affairs, contributed to increased understanding in the international community for the positions and actions of Israel in Lebanon, and for the aims it set for itself there.

The second factor which contributed to the improvement in our position was the increasing understanding which developed in our relations with the U.S., and the readiness of the American Administration to give expression to this through the establishment of a mechanism of cooperation and political and strategic coordination between the two states.

The violent disputes and constant tension characterizing our region were especially evident in the past year. In this reality, Israel stands out as a stable and stabilizing factor whose power derives not only from its strength and resources, but also from its way of life and democratic government.

The IDF entered Lebanon in June 1982 in order to put an end to the terror attacks on northern Israel from the territory of that state. This objective was in the main achieved, but we are continuing to deal with the need to ensure this achievement for the long term without needing a massive IDF presence on Lebanese soil. We are working to transform the IDF's achievements on the battlefield into permanent security arrangements, which will prevent the transformation of Lebanon again into a base for terror attacks on our citizens.

Operation Peace for the Galilee gave the Lebanese people and its government an opportunity to establish an independent government freed from the PLO terror strongholds and the yoke of Syrian occupation. For a period of a few months it seemed there was a chance that the opportunity given Lebanon would indeed be made good, even if partially.

In those months we conducted negotiations with the help of the United States on an agreement which would give formal and legal expression to the security arrangements I have mentioned, within the framework of a wider arrangement according to which all the foreign forces would be removed from Lebanon. The agreement was signed on 17 May 1983, but the Lebanese Government was unable to carry it out. Syria and its henchmen in Lebanon pursued methods of violence and terror which gradually increased until they subdued the Lebanese Government. On 5 March this year, the Lebanese Government published a statement on the unilateral abrogation of the agreement with Israel. In reaction to the Lebanese statement we declared that it was now clear beyond any doubt that Syria has subjugated Lebanon to its dictates, which means a blow to its independence and sovereignty. We also stated that in light of this fact, Israel will know how to find the proper ways to ensure its own security.

In reality, the central Lebanese Government has not controlled the whole area of south Lebanon for almost ten years. It was controlled by the terrorist gangs, and near our border order and security were maintained by the militia of the late Major Haddad, with the backing of the IDF. Since our entry into Lebanon, we have been working in various ways and with every possible element to increase security.

According to the agreement with the Government of Lebanon, the regular Lebanese Army was to station a unit in the south in which the local militias were to be integrated, and it was to be given responsibility for guarding the security of the region, in coordination and cooperation with IDF elements. But, since there is no longer a central, independent Lebanese Government free of Syrian dictate, we are continuing and increasing our efforts, while cooperating with the local population, so that local elements will take security and order into their own hands. This task is not easy and cannot be carried out hastily and rashly. These units must rely on the good will and cooperation of the local population and its leaders. We are trying to highlight and exploit the communality of interests which exists between us and all elements of the Lebanese people in south Lebanon. We are interested in the well-being, security and benefit of this population, and we have no interest in interfering in its daily life. We believe that this population will deny aid and shelter to terrorists and elements hostile to us.

The IDF will deploy in south Lebanon in the scope and for the

length of time necessary to carry out the mission of securing our common border. The aim of its presence will be to prevent the entry, establishment and organization of hostile elements, and its deployment will change in accordance with the circumstances in the area.

The agreement between Israel and Lebanon of 17 May 1983 was signed by an independent and free Lebanese Government, and approved by the Lebanese Parliament, of its own free will. Its political and moral, if not legal, validity remains in effect, in contrast to the act of abrogation which was done by force and compulsion by a government which lost its sovereignty.

In addition, the abrogation of the agreement was a step backward for the peace process in the region. This was the second political agreement signed between Israel and its neighbors, and its first paragraph stated that the state of war between the two states no longer exists. The Government of Syria set itself a goal to abrogate the agreement precisely because it is a political agreement which promotes the peace process. The Syrian regime did not hesitate to sacrifice the benefit and well-being of Lebanon in order to stop the peace process and set it back, with the basic aim of preserving the state of war between Israel and its neighbors, and as part of this, cancelling the Camp David agreements. Undoubtedly the position of the Syrian regime and its intentions are not limited to the question of Lebanon, its independence and future, but relate to the peace of the whole region, or to the danger, from its point of view, that it will have more stability which will facilitate the continuation of the peace process according to the Camp David agreements. Therefore the matter concerns all the countries in the free world who have an interest in stability and peace in the Middle East, countries which must see with open eyes the Syrian obstacle on the way to achieving these objectives. In any event, Israel will do its part for its security with the tools and means it has at its disposal.

The Camp David framework agreements were and still are the first, and today the only, valid political agreement signed between Israel and an Arab state in the Middle East. They led to the signature of the peace treaty with Egypt and they are the only agreed basis for solving the question of the status of the Arab residents in the areas of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, and for a peace settlement with Jordan. We are faithful to these agreements and to the peace treaty with Egypt on a mutual basis, and we shall meticulously keep our commitments according to them.

Our readiness to negotiate with Jordan on a peace treaty according to the conditions of the framework agreements remains in force, and we have declared it publicly a number of times. We believe and are sure that the day the Jordanian authorities arrive at a decision that they want peace, there will be no delay and no obstacle on the way to negotiation on the basis of the Camp David agreements, which will include an agreement on establishment of autonomy and the signature of a peace treaty with Jordan. We also believe that the Jordanian rulers know well that the PLO is a danger and stumbling-block to them and to the negotiations for peace. When this obstacle is removed, the way will be opened for understanding and cooperation with our eastern neighbor.

From time to time the Government of Egypt declares its faithfulness to the peace treaty. We do not ignore these declarations just as we cannot ignore the actions and declarations of Egyptian leaders, which contradict the spirit and content of the Camp David agreements and the peace treaty. We have treated this subject from the Knesset podium, in letters we have sent to the Egyptian Government, and in talks which we hold with governments having friendly ties with us and with Egypt. Whoever harms this sole and tender basis for peace in the area is taking upon himself a heavy and grave responsibility for the future of the Middle East.

At the end of last November I visited the U.S. with the defense minister, and there we held comprehensive and thorough talks on the relations between our two states, on Lebanon and on the situation in the region. The visit was carried out against the background of understanding and increasing recognition in the world and the U.S. of Israel's role as a stable element desiring stability and peace in the Lebanese context and in the Middle East in general. The differences of opinion existing between us and the American Administration have not interfered at all in achieving even greater understanding and cooperation on many and important issues. This time the two sides even took upon themselves to strengthen this cooperation through the formation of joint working teams on political and military issues.

The U.S. friendship for Israel, which is also expressed in political, economic and military aid, is a basic asset in our foreign policy, and we are working constantly to foster and deepen it. These close relations are also vital for the whole region and its stability.

The European Community, as will be remembered, had reservations about Operation Peace for the Galilee, and expressed its position in declarations and in a freeze of certain joint activities of Israel and the European Market. The past year saw a noticeable improvement in our relations with the Community. The dialogue with the Community and its institutions, and with the member governments, was renewed and expanded.

We conducted talks with the foreign ministers of the Community and with other Cabinet ministers, both when some of them visited us, and when I visited Brussels and The Hague last month to present our requests on economic matters, in anticipation of the entry of Spain and Portugal into the Community. In particular, we should mention the visit of Chancellor Kohl, with whom we conducted a broad, penetrating dialogue on all matters involving Israel and Germany. I conveyed to the chancellor Israel's position on the supply of German arms to Arab countries, in all its severity and its military, moral and historic significance.

Our relations with the countries of Latin America, Africa and Asia are founded on a tradition of mutual respect, friendship and readiness to cooperate in economic fields and in technical assistance.

We maintain ties of friendship and cooperation with most of the countries of Latin America. Despite the political and social changes affecting the peoples of this important continent, we continue to maintain a stable, established level of relations with them. There are large Jewish communities on this continent, and our representatives are constantly at work in order to bring them closer and increase their ties to Israel.

In Africa, relations were renewed with one more country, Liberia, and the visit of the president of Israel to the countries with which we maintain diplomatic relations contributed to a deepening of our relations with them. Our activities among those countries that broke off relations with us has also continued, in the economic and trade areas, and we hope that they too will restore full diplomatic ties in the near future.

The ongoing break between Israel and the Soviet Union continues to stand out as a negative phenomenon without logic or justification. When changes were introduced in the Soviet leadership recently, I used the opportunity to publicly express my hope that the Soviet Government would reexamine its approach and renew normal relations with us, without any relation to the political stands of the two sides on various issues, just as it maintains them with many countries in the owrld. We also declared that our relations with third countries on all levels are not directed against the Soviet Union, and thus there is no basis for the claims that serve as a justification for the continued break in relations. We call upon the Soviet authorities to act immediately and decisively to put an end to the anti-Semitic campaign now being waged under the camouflage of anti-Zionism. We also demand that the Soviet Union open its gates to Jews who want to return to their homeland and unite with their people in Israel, and that it release from prison the prisoners of Zion who are suffering through no fault of their own.

Our activities on Jewish issues, and our maintenance of ties with Jewish communities throughout the world is central and vital both for us and for them. As long as the diaspora exists, then the dispersed of Israel wherever they may be naturally consitute our most faithful allies. We are working to bring the various Jewish coomunities and organizations closer to us, so that they may understand Israel and its problems, and increase their solidarity with us. Beyond this, it is incumberent upon us to increase the appeals and actions on behalf of the immigration of the Jews of the diaspora to the land of Israel. This goal must be a central issue in our activities and our contacts with the communities around the world, with their leaders and with every Jew who comes here on a visit or a pilgrimage. When assimilation is eating away at every community, we cannot be content with routine actions. Immigration to Israel must be placed at the top of our national scale of priorities.

I will add a few words about budgetary and administrative matters in the prime minister's office and the Foreign Ministry.

The overall budget of the Foreign Ministry will reach about 10.7 billion shekels. After deducting expenses for salaries and the maintenance of embassies abroad, we are left with only 12 percent of that figure as the operating budget for informational activity, cultural ties, inviting guests from abroad and for international cooperation and assistance activities. This is indisputably too small a sum.

Employees of the Foreign Ministry and our representatives abroad operate within this reduced budgetary framework, often under difficult conditions, with their personal security and that of their families exposed to dangers and threats. They deserve our admiration and respect.

The budget of the prime minister's office for the 1984/5 fiscal year totals 1,511 million shekels.

About forty percent of the total budget for the prime minister's office, and two thirds of its work force, are devoted to the activities of the Central Bureau of Statistics. During the past budget year the bureau conducted a census of population and housing in a large, complicated campaign all across the country. The data received is now in the final stages of computerized processing; the resulting information serves our policy in the social, economic, industrial, agricultural and other areas.

The *GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE*, which has completed its move to Jerusalem, offers services to the Israeli press as well as to some 300 agencies and representatives of the world media, and to several thousand foreign correspondents and journalists who visit the country in the course of the year.

The National Parks Authority operates as an independent authority attached to the prime minister's office. The authority has developed and maintained more than 40 national sites such as Massada, the Tal Grove, the amphitheater at Caesaria and others.

The work of the adviser on Arab affairs and his staff is marked by concern for the welfare and advancement of the Arab minority in Israel.

Mr. Speaker, I can say that the Arab citizens of Israel, the Druze and the other minority members in our country enjoy a standard of living, a cultural standard, progress and conditions of freedom the likes of which do not exist in the region. This situation stems from our world view and our determination to maintain in our country the basic rights and freedoms granted by the law.

Among the other activities attached to the prime minister's office, one should cite the State Archives, which this year will publish the fourth volume of selected state documents, whose publication is allowed by law after thirty years.

I feel it my responsibility to mention the work of the unit for compensating the Sinai evacuees, which will this year complete the difficult mission imposed on it, and the work of the government names committee headed by Professor Biran, all of which is done on a purely volunteer basis; and to thank from this podium my aides and advisers who bear with me the difficult talks imposed on the office of the prime minister.

To conclude this survey, I wish to state once again: Despite the obstacles, the manifestations of hostility and the attempts to sabotage the peace process, Israel is determined to continue on its path. We will protect our security and our ability to deter any threat and attack, and at the same time we will strive for peace, and not neglect any chance of advancing it.

Correction to Shamir Interview on Lebanon, Syria

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Shamir Interviewed on Lebanon, Syria," published in the 9 March Middle East and Africa *DAILY REPORT*, p I 3, first paragraph, line nine:

...a political step without the 'Arafat seal of approval....(changing word "with" to "without")

'No Surprise' in Reagan Speech to Jewish Leaders

TA140607 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Talk in the studio between political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer and Shalom Qital]

[Text] [Qital] Good morning to you, our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer. We have just heard President Reagan's remarks to young U.S. Jewish leaders. I understand that Jerusalem had known in advance about President Reagan's intended remarks.

[Schiffer] There was indeed no surprise in Jerusalem about the remarks made by President Reagan. The U.S. Administration had transmitted to Jerusalem in advance the remarks which President Reagan was going to include in his speech regarding settlements and Jordan. Information on this had also been transmitted to the Jordanian Government. Matters were known here and were received as another attempt by the U.S. Administration to try to incorporate Husayn into the peace process, in view of the fact that the Husayn-'Arafat talks yielded no results and Husayn continues to sit on the fence.

[Qital] Have you not heard a tone of concern in Jerusalem about the fact that President Reagan is making remarks that may be unacceptable to the Israeli Government, although this year is an election year in the United States?

[Schiffer] There was no concern among Jerusalem's policymakers since the assessment here is that even if Israel arranged a package deal transferring all the settlements to Husayn's court — together with Hanan Porat [former Tehiya MK] singing with a pipe as part of the deal, as one political source told me — then Husayn would still not join the peace process, since his survival depends on his continued fence-sitting and it is neither Israel's action nor inaction which can prevent this.

In the wake of Moshe Arens's talks in the United States, the assessment here is that there is no chance of incorporating Husayn in the peace process, nor is there a chance for any great initiative to bring Husayn into the talks in the coming year.

[Qital] It seems to me that Minister Ari'el Sharon noted a few days ago that the United States was no longer condemning Israel on the settlement issue. However, President Reagan once again spoke of the settlements as an obstacle; he reiterated his criticism of them.

[Schiffer] This section in Reagan's speech is viewed here as an absolutely necessary section rather than as condemnation, in order to encourage Husayn, a matter which the U.S. Administration so strongly wants and is so deeply disappointed about. However, there was another element in Reagan's speech which is worth emphasizing: the U.S. Administration's decision to sell the Stinger shoulder-launched missiles to Jordan. There have been consultations on this matter in Jerusalem lately. The prime minister held consultations with Major General Uri Simhoni, the IDF attache in the United States; the Foreign Ministry's legal adviser; and a U.S. delegation. Various formulae were examined, whereby the United States may give Israel guarantees that these missiles will not be used against it in the future. In any event, the Americans are determined to sell these missiles. In the meantime, it is not clear whether there will also be firm verbal opposition by Israel in Washington on this matter.

Further Reaction to Speech

TA140900 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel — recorded]

[Text] The Palestinian chapter in President Reagan's speech is classified in Jerusalem as: signals from Washington to King Husayn. The United States has issued many such signals in recent years, but the U.S. effort seems more concentrated this month against the background of the Husayn-'Arafat meetings in Amman and following the failure of U.S. policy in Lebanon.

Reagan is eager to point to an achievement in the Middle East as this is an election year in the United States. There is not much appreciation in Jerusalem for the U.S.-Jordanian move, although this can not be solely attributed to the fact that Israel does not take a favorable view of the Husayn-'Arafat meeting themselves. The Jordanian king has not shown any real signs of wanting to come to the negotiations table, nor does it seem that 'Arafat is demonstrating any willingness to join such a move.

The assessment in Jerusalem is that the talks in Amman ended without any results, and that perhaps they had not been intended to achieve any decisions right from the start. Husayn wants to show that he reserves for himself the political option, and the U.S. moves to court him are particularly pleasing to him given that a large arms deal is also involved. 'Arafat is seeking renewed legitimization in the Arab world as an influential leader, while the Americans speak of peace talks but are more interested in the Hart-Mondale struggles. In short, this is simply a playing out of roles, Jerusalem observers say, and the settlements are not the real problem. Husayn and 'Arafat do not want negotiations now; there is no chance for the resumption of the peace process, at least not before the U.S. election year is over.

As for Reagan's speech yesterday, the Israeli Embassy in Washington knew of its content in advance. Generally speaking it contains nothing new, nothing that Israeli ears have not heard in recent years about the settlements and Palestinian issue. Political circles believe that the mention of Jerusalem's status came against a proposal raised in the U.S. Congress to transfer the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

The most important subject in the speech now seems to be the arms deal with Jordan, the main point of which is the supply of antiaircraft shoulder-launched missiles. The U.S. Congress is discussing the proposal to ban the sale and Israel is also opposed to the deal, at least in its present format. This deal is causing a great deal of concern in Jerusalem.

Arens Tours Gaza Strip, Qatif Bloc

TA131449 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens today toured the Gaza Strip and Qatif bloc for the first time since taking office. In the Gaza Strip he met with the mayors of Gaza and Dayr-al-Balah. In the Qatif bloc, the defense minister talked with representatives of the settlers and promised to raise the region's development problems in the Cabinet. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that Minister Arens later went to Mizpe Ramon, where he met with regional IDF commanders to ascertain how the army can be of help in developing the town.

Ben-Eli'ezer on Reaction to Husayn-'Arafat Meeting

TA121837 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Interview with coordinator of activities in the territories Brigadier General (Reserve) Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer by correspondent Arye Gus — date and place not given; recorded]

[Text] [Gus] How do you assess the outcome of the meeting, the summit meeting, between 'Arafat and Husayn?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] It is true that the talks between 'Arafat and King Husayn reawakened hopes for the emergence of an agreement which would make progress on the political plane possible. I do not think we were surprised here. We knew what would happen ahead of time, I think, more or less, and the fact is that by and large the people came back here without any results. To all intents and purposes, they returned with a feeling of utter frustration and despair, and I would say received no answers from either side.

[Gus] Does the fact that they went to Jordan and met with Yasir 'Arafat constitue a shift in Israel's stand which has up to now forbidden meetings with PLO members?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] By no means. Israel's stand was, and is, one of absolutely forbidding meetings with 'Arafat and PLO members, and this stand will be respected, in light of the circumstances. This time was without doubt a deviation, and we will take a corresponding attitude in this respect, in keeping with our policy. I regard this deviation as an episode which does not fundamentally change our general line.

[Gus] In retrospect, it really seems that the delegation's meeting with 'Arafat caused a crisis, a rift, in the territories.

[Ben-Eli'ezer] Yes. The outcome obtained by Israel from the meeting between the representatives who went there, and who met with 'Arafat and Husayn, is that it has created far greater frustration here in the territories. Actually, from their point of view, they tried all the possibilities, and now they have returned with results amounting to nil. They received nothing from either side — 'Arafat was a broken and weary man when they saw him, with nothing real or tangible in his hands; and the meetings both with him and Husayn gave them no hope and no promise, as I understand. Therefore, from this aspect the meetings really only served the process of these people's anticipations and expectations. I hope that in the long run, as a result of these meetings and of the process begun by them, they will now come to realize that the only partners with whom they must live for a long time and with whom they will continue to talk are the Israelis; and if they find a way of doing so, then this will prove to be a great achievement.

Shilansky: Iraqi Regime 'Cruel, Barbaric, Inhuman'

TA141009 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0940 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] There is a basis for the reports that Iraq is using chemical warfare means in its war against Iran. This was stated in the Knesset by the deputy minister for parliamentary affairs in the prime minister's office, Dov Shilansky, a short while ago. In reply to an oral query, on behalf of the prime minister, Shilansky said this is further evidence of the cruel, barbaric and inhuman Iraqi regime, and illustrates the inherent danger in Iraq's receipt of unconventional arms. Shilansky emphasized that a number of sources examined the information in his possession and were cautiously disseminating it.

French Minister on EEC Problems, Cooperation

TA131207 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Israel and France are to step up cooperation in the field of industrial research and technology. In the first stage each country is putting up $100,000 to promote cooperation on scientific and technological problems and agroindustry. Reporter Harley Braidman asked French Industry Minister [title as heard] Laurent Fabius about France's attitude to the difficulties Israeli agriculture is facing with Spanish and Portuguese accession to the Common Market:

[Begin recording] [Fabius] I think it is a very important question, and from what I know the decision has been taken that the commission of the EEC must study all the aspects of this difficult question, in order not to bring to any too damageable situation in that respect of the enlargement of the community, and the efforts of France are to contribute to finding a reasonable solution between the countries. Therefore, obviously it is more a problem between the EEC and Israel than only with a member of the EEC, but our efforts as Frenchmen will be to trace a reasonable solution.

[Braidman] We have heard here in Israel that sometimes there are quotas and administrative difficulties, even though we have a free trade agreement, that make exports more difficult to Common Market countries, including France.

[Fabius] It is a question which is often raised. I think to a large extent obstacles exist in different countries and obstacles unfortunately exist too in Israel toward different countries, and it is a sort of barrier. Our own position is obviously to try and diminish and even if possible to suppress barriers. I know it is not always easy, within a short time, but it is the objective because we think that commerce, that trade, has to be as free as possible. [end recording]

'Arafat Meeting With Finland's Sorsa Protested

TA140613 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Israel has expressed deep dissatisfaction that Finnish Premier Kalevi Sorsa met PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat last Thursday. The director general of the Foreign Ministry summoned the Finnish charge d'affairs in Israel on Monday and Israel's ambassador to Finland protested to the Finnish Foreign Ministry. The Finns said that the meeting between Sorsa and 'Arafat in Tunis was unofficial and did not imply any change in relations.

Attempt To Assassinate Envoy to Greece Foiled

TA140528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] An attempt to assassinate Israel's representative to Greece was foiled in Athens yesterday. The police arrested an armed terrorist near the building of Israel's diplomatic mission in Athens yesterday. The terrorist was in possession of a Czech-made gun. In his initial interrogation, he admitted that he intended to shoot the head of the mission, Yehezqel Barne'a. Athens police sources say that the terrorist was equipped with a Moroccan passport and arrived in Greece from Rome a few days ago. Two other terrorists, who managed to escape with a car, are currently being sought.

DAVAR, HATZOFE on Religious Disputes

TA110647 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Text] In the editorials, the Histadrut's paper *DAVAR* discusses the violence in Petah Tiqva by religious demonstrators who smashed up a cafe because it was open on the Sabbath. The paper says under the Labor governments, a delicate balance was preserved between what the religious saw as indispensable, and what the secular were prepared to put up with. But the present government is an alliance between religion and nationalism and since it came to power problems of religion and state have been aggravated, the paper says, particularly as the two religious parties vie with each other for the support of the religious voter. *DAVAR* warns that the violence in Petah Tiqva and the removal of the body of Teresa Angehelovici from her grave [on suspicion that she was not really Jewish and therefore should not have been buried in the Jewish cemetery in Rishon Leziyyon] are signs that a kulturkampf, a war between religious and nonreligious could break out in Israel. *DAVAR* calls on both sides to stop and think before it is too late.

However, *HATZOFE* of the National Religious Party says it was the mayor of Petah Tiqva who broke the law, when he opens places of entertainment on the Sabbath, and this was pointed out to him by the deputy attorney general. In these circumstances, the religious public has no option but to take to the streets and demonstrate, *HATZOFE* says.

Report on Assessment of Syrian Power Struggle

TA110752 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 11 Mar 84 pp 1, 8

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Excerpts] Israel's planning of its redeployment in south Lebanon will not be affected by the ongoing power struggle inside Syria, senior officials have assured *THE JERUSALEM POST*. While the situation in Damascus is fluid, and Jerusalem is watching it carefully, the Israel Defence Forces is completing its plans for a new line in Lebanon and will submit them to the Cabinet shortly.

The officials said the issue is not on today's Cabinet agenda. The intention, they said, is not to make "hasty" decisions. But the redeployment is certainly a matter of priority and the Cabinet will address itself to it as soon as the army is ready.

Regarding the situation in Syria, officials here were hesitant at the weekend to offer a firm analysis because the behind-the-scenes battles for power are still under way. It appeared though, some officials said, that President Hafiz al-Asad's brother Rif'at, now named one of the three vice-presidents, had succeeded in strengthening his position at the expense of other rivals.

The Israeli officials saw the continuing struggle as a jockeying for position in the succession stakes in Syria. The feeling there seems to be that Al-Asad's long rule may be drawing to an end in view of his declining health.

What is not clear is whether Al-Asad himself feels this to be the case, and also whether he supports his highly unpopular brother, Rif'at, as his successor-designate. Rif'at al-Asad's standing among the prominent 'Alawite families is also still to be tested — as is the minority 'Alawites' ability to retain power if the president is indeed weakening.

Israeli observers believe Syria will act cautiously in Lebanon so long as there is uncertainty over the leadership in Damascus.

Jerusalem Arabic on Syrian Cabinet Formation

JN122140 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Commentary by Sha'ul Menashe, Middle Eastern affairs editor, carried within "With the Events" program]

[Text] The new Syrian Cabinet, which is composed of 38 ministers, did not undergo deep-rooted changes. The deep-rooted

change was manifested by the appointment of three vice presidents: 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, first vice president for foreign affairs; Dr Rif'at al-Asad, vice president for defense affairs; and Zuhayr Mashariqah, a third vice president.

The appointment of three vice presidents is said to have been effected in order to lighten President Hafiz al-Asad's heavy burders following his recent heart attack. During his 14 years as president, Hafiz al-Asad was the absolute decisionmaker. He made all of the internal, external, and security decisions. Today, President al-Asad is no longer capable of assuming all these responsibilities. His doctors say that he should work a few hours each day and must devote much time to rest and relaxation, otherwise the consequences will be bad.

In such circumstances, there should be a division of responsibilities. However, this is not an easy task because the struggle over Al-Asad's legacy and power is rife in the Syrian capital. It may be said that the recent measures, including the appointment of three vice presidents, are not the end but rather the beginning of the crisis. The struggle in the first place is between Mustafa Talas, who still retains the Defense Ministry portfolio and Dr Rif'at al-Asad, the president's brother, who has been given additional power.

Why should these appontments be the beginning of the crisis? In countries that are dominated by dictatorial, arbitrary regimes, military strength is the key to power. The military affairs now are in the hands of two persons instead of being in President Al-Asad's hands. One is a defense minister and the other is vice president for defense affairs. Each of them will be reluctant to submit to the other. The two sides of the balance — the pro-Western Talas, and the pro-Russian Rif'at al-Asad — are not of the same weight. Because he is the president's brother, Rif'at al-Asad has the upper hand. He is exploiting this to strengthen his military powers gradually. Western sources say that Rif'at al-Asad controls Damascus from the security viewpoint.

Finally, here are some remarks on the title of doctor which Rif'at al-Asad attaches to his name. Undoubteldy, this title evokes surprise. How could Rif'at obtain such a title? The title was conferred on him by a Soviet university in the 1970's. It is a baseless, forged Syrian title. It is said that the subject of the doctorate degree that Rif'at obtained was the Syrian economy; that he has obtained his doctorate not by hard study in Moscow but by correspondence; and that the Soviets conferred this title on him just because he is pro-Soviet in his political inclinations. Rif'at al-Asad insists on this title in order to hide his poor education. Correspondents in the Syrian capital say that the Syrians give him this epithet to provoke sarcasm as well as ridicule. The Syrians say that if Rif'at deserves an epithet because of his murders and killings in Hamah, he deserves to be called professor, rather than doctor.

UN Official Examining Lebanese Security Arrangements

TA140535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] UN Assistant Secretary General Brian Urquhart will leave Jerusalem for Damascus this morning to discuss plans to include a UN force in arrangements in Lebanon. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that Urquhart toured southern Lebanon yesterday together with the UNIFIL commander and his officers. He examined plans to deploy the UN force south of Al-Awwali. Plans for UNIFIL to safeguard the refugee camps near Sidon have also been examined. Our correspondent has learned that despite the veto cast by the Soviet Union in the UN Security Council, Urquhart is also examining the possibility of stationing UN soldiers in Beirut to replace the Multinational Force.

Hand Grenade Thrown at IDF Patrol in Sidon

TA140616 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] A hand grenade was thrown at an IDF patrol in the center of Sidon yesterday. There were no casualties. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the grenade was thrown when the street was crowded with people, miraculously nobody was hurt. The IDF forces searched the area.

Sidon Port Remains Closed; Militias Formed

TA131404 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1330 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The port of Sidon remains closed despite appeals by local notables to reopen it. Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, reports that local militia groups have been formed in Sidon, whose duty it is to prevent terrorists from striking at IDF troops. An IDF soldier was killed in the port of Sidon last week and 10 others were wounded.

Two Bombs Explode in Lebanon's Western Sector

TA140827 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0742 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Two side charges exploded in Lebanon's western sector last night but there were no casualties. One charge exploded southeast of Ansariyah and the other south of Az-Zahrani. The second charge weighed 15 kg. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports that IDF soldiers are searching the areas where the two charges were planted.

MA'ARIV: Harif Commentary on Lebanon

TA091745 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 9 Mar 84 p 15

[Commentary by Yosef Harif: "Shultz to Arens: The United States will not cut itself off from Lebanon"]

[Text] A message from the U.S. President reached the prime minister this week. As usual it contains nice expressions. However, all the "nice things" contained in it are unimportant except one: cooperation between the two countries. Everything else in Reagan's message to Shamir makes no difference regarding the Lebanese problem.

What value, for example, is there to the strong exception that

Reagan takes to the abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese accord, as expressed in his message which arrived in Jerusalem at the beginning of the week, given that on the Friday before this, Washington Administration officials had already told Israel's Ambassador Dr Me'ir Rosenne that "within a day or two" the accord would be annuled by Al-Jumayyil?

What is the purpose of the anger that Reagan expresses in his message about Syria? Does anger constitute a policy?

What value is there to Washington's willingness to continue supporting Al-Jumayyil, as Reagan tells Shamir? How will it accomplish this, by letting him get devoured by Al-Asad on Damascus territory?

Syria's outstanding achievement in the annulment of the Israeli-Lebanese accord is not the Damascus regime's major goal. Syria is really only beginning. Encouraged by the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, Damascus will now move to abolish Israel's representation in Lebanon and will then concentrate its efforts on a total withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon. It it obtains this, its takeover of Lebanon and Lebanon's conversion into part of "Greater Syria" will be facilitated.

The abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement is completely marginal in contrast with the real problems facing Israel and the United States. This reality is a test for the United States rather than for Israel: Is it a superpower whom friends in the region can rely upon?

Washington is well aware of the truth even though, for understandable reasons — including those related to its elections campaign — it will not admit to it. The truth is that the United States, rather than Israel, was really the one that emerged from Lebanon as the big loser. After all, in order to talk with the communities in Lebanon, Israel does not need an "accord." Indicative of this is that the Israeli mission in Lebanon has become, these very days, the site of pilgrimage for members of all communities. The delegations which arrive in Israel also bear witness to this. The dispatch of an emissary on behalf of President al-Jumayyil with a proposal to hold talks along the lines of Khaldah-Qiryat Shemona — with the participation of the same delegation heads (for the sake of symbolism, apparently...), Al-Jumayyil's adviser, Antoine Fattal, and Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche — is undoubtedly a sign that despite the recent vicissitudes, Israel continues to be an element that must be reckoned with. Last but not least, there are those who came to us to arrange a meeting between Al-Jumayyil and Defense Minister Arens on Israel's territory, and who still view Israel as an element without which it is impossible to prevent a Syrian takeover of all of Lebanon. As Arens said to Shultz, "many cards still remain in Israel's hands." First and foremost, Israel does not need the 17 May document in order to arrive at security arrangements in southern Lebanon.

As far as Israel is concerned, the Lebanese affair has not ended. How did Phalange Commander Fadi Afram phrase this to President al-Jumayyil? "You have surrendered to the Syrians and received nothing in return. The little that Israel was willing to do, it will not do now for you or for us."

There are elements in Lebanon who cry out against Israel, while quietly they seek arrangements with it, and these include those characterized as the sworn servants of the Syrians.

The Syrians cannot yet make a blessing over the results. They are, everything considered, entering the same quagmire from which Israel has begun to extricate itself. Is there any guarantee that the Syrians will be able to get along with all rival factions in Lebanon, even if Al-Jumayyil were a replacement for Ilyas Sarkis? Does Syria want the partition of Lebanon, namely a long Israeli entrenchment in southern Lebanon? Certainly not. Is it by accident that Al-Asad allowed Al-Jumayyil to negotiate security arrangements with Israel ("but only in the framework of the armistice committee...")? He knows the implications of Israel remaining in Lebanon and being involved in the south and beyond through local forces. The abrogation of the accord, albeit a prestigious achievement for Al-Asad, does not change much from the Israeli point of view. It is undoubtedly, however, a turning point from the U.S. point of view given that it had guaranteed the accord, as well as the fact that it was obtained thanks to the personal intervention of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

The U.S. failure is far greater. Some may say this is nothing but a question of prestige. However, prestige is one of the important components in the overall equation of a superpower. After all, we are talking here not only of prestige but of the undermining of U.S. credibility.

Whorever wants to examine Washington's moves and not only their sad results will discover a basic flaw in Washington's methods: shortsightedness and selfdelusion, as well as a conscious whitewash of events.

Washington had the baseless belief that if Israel would only concede some of its demands vis-a-vis Lebanon, an agreement would be signed; immediately after this, Damascus would announce its willingness to remove its forces from Lebanon in the framework of the evacuation of "all foreign forces," as called for in the Israeli-Lebanese accord. When the Israelis expressed their doubts about this rosy picture painted by the Americans, the reply was: Trust us; we have grounds to believe that this will be so...

This approach of "we have grounds to believe" is characteristic of Washington's political moves and ends in complications, and a loss of prestige and status.

The same held true regarding the Reagan plan. When the U.S. Administration was asked what point there was to launching such a plan and whether Jordan would be prepared to come to the negotiating table, the answer was: "We have grounds to believe."

After a while the question arising was: Why did you involve the President's name with this plan? The answer was: "Do you think we would have allowed the President to publicly announce his plan if we had no reason to believe..."

This is apparently the trouble of not only the present administration. Reagan's predecessor, Jimmy Carter, whose achievement was the Camp David accords, was also convinced that he had

reason to believe that Jordan would join them.

As strange as this may seem, the United States, for all its orderly institutions, may reveal its superficiality, negligence and the inability of its leader to bring his authority to bear on forming a consolidated, dynamic and effective policy. From this point of view there is an enormous similarity between the Reagan administration and the Likud.

In evaluating the U.S. policies in Lebanon, one cannot now ignore the internal struggles within the administration which have implications in the area: It was only this past week that Shultz charged that the conduct of certain congressional elements marred the administration's ability to properly navigate its policy in Lebanon. Why should the Syrians fear the Reagan administration and its declarations that the U.S. forces will remain in Lebanon and will not even hesitate to hit the Syrians, when they hear congressmen and Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger openly demanding the withdrawal of the Marines from Lebanon?

U.S. sources tell that a U.S. official who accused the Pentagon of "sabotage" called out furiously: "We have been defeated (in Lebanon) by the Iranian terrorists and by...Weinberger!"

The Syrians scored their achievement in Lebanon thanks to the folly of the Americans rather than by virute of their wisdom. A Wahsington State Department official was quoted as defining U.S. foreign policy as "a disaster" and noted that all foreign policy makers, from the President on down, had begun moving away from the Lebanese arena.

The following story was prevalent in Washington: In the course of one of the discussions by the National Security Council, held after the announcement of the President's decision to pull the U.S. forces out of Beirut, Shultz looked over at where his colleague, Caspar Weinberger, was sitting and commented with bitter sarcasm that in the future, if he wants his policy adopted, he will have to recommend the opposite of what he really wants, since then he is guaranteed the Pentagon's opposition and the ultimate determination will be what he, Shultz, really wanted in the first place...

We have no doubt that the source, usually known for its reliability, did not fabricate the story. Can an administration conduct its policy this way? Is Reagan really furious about Syria, as his message to Shamir indicates? Is he furious that Syria correctly read the situation in Washington and came to the right conclusion? It was, after all, clear that with such a zigzag policy the U.S. Marines would have to get out, especially given that all communications media and elections experts in the United States "disclosed" to the Syrians that Reagan is facing new Presidential elections. What and who are the administration angry about? Have the Syrians never heard that National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane and Secretary of State Shultz supported "the use of force"? And what was the result? While visiting Brazil the U.S. secretary of state was informed that President Reagan decided on a "new deployment".(namely, a pullout from Lebanon) of the Marines.

When the President empowered the local commanders to react (and the U.S. Navy ships daily and heavily shelled the opponents of their favorite, Amin al-Jumayyil), consultations were held in Washington in which State Department officials, including the U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon, recommended the resumption of contacts with Al-Asad.

Under these circumstances, is there any reason to wonder why U.S. friends in the region tremble at what lies in store for them?

During his visit to Washington a few weeks ago, Husayn asked the United States to help him in the event of a Syrian offensive against Jordan. He was given a promise then, and Husayn may have calmed down a bit, but is this promise an insurance policy against Syria? After all, in Lebanon the United States had an entire "armada" and a full complement of arms — Marines and fighter planes — but in the end the Lebanese president still had to go to Damascus and ask that his life be spared.

Last week Arens met with Shultz to discuss with him "what should be done now." A short while earlier the U.S. Administration discussed a very serious problem: the need to act rapidly for the rehabilitation of U.S. credibility in the eyes of its friends in the region. This is perhaps why Arens lent an attentive ear. Shultz promised, at the beginning of the talk, that the United States does not intend to cut itself off from Lebanon, that it intends to continue its involvement there, and that, according to Shultz, that was the President's opinion as well.

This week the defense minister briefed the ministers during the Cabinet meeting about his talk with Shultz, saying that on the basis of this talk, he can say that the United States and Israel will continue to stand "together" in Lebanon. There is no reason to doubt the defense minister's impressions. This is all the more true since he met Shultz for a tete-a-tete talk at which his impressions were reinforced by what was not said in the large circle before which Arens spoke of his conception of the "cards" we are still holding. If there are any doubts still lingering, these are only due to the fact that the circle that met with Arens was from the very beginning in favor of a policy which advocated a joint stance with Israel against Syria and which even believed that force should not be avoided to convince the Syrians that time is not working in their favor. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane, Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, special envoy to Lebanon Donald Rumsfeld, and others were present in that circle, alongside Shultz. Is it by accident that none of the Weinberger's men were interested in holding such a discussion?

In the meantime Eagleburger withdrew from his position, and Robert McFarlane, so we hear from U.S. sources, is inclined to concentrate on establishing his office's image as an element with no leaning. McFarlane, like Shultz, cannot conceal his bitterness in view of the developments in Lebanon which have been affected to quite a degree by the power struggles in the administration, between Weinberger's Pentagon on the one hand, and the "circle" that met with the Israeli defense minister on the other.

It is against this background that Reagan sent a letter to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in which he repeated the need for "a coordination of positions."

Zaq on Superpower Struggle in Lebanon

TA091222 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
9 Mar 84 p 21

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "A Cloud Over Jabal al-Baruk"]

[Excerpts] Israel maintains an open line to Lebanon, unlike the lines marking the borders between the various militia groups, which are sealed tight. This in fact is how the partition is implemented now in Lebanon: Not a division between a Syrian zone of influence and an Israeli security area, but a division between the different Lebanese factions which are fighting for economic interests.

Amin al-Jumayyil is not only the ruler of the B'abda Palace, but also of Pier 5 at the port of Beirut, which serves as another source of substantial personal income in addition to his wide-scale business interests.

The other quays belong to the other leaders in Lebanon and the fight over the leadership pie is not only over the division of seats in the Lebanese Cabinet, but also over the apportioning of booty in the Lebanese economy.

The Syrians, too, do not shun the rush for slices of the Lebanese pie. The Lebanese contend that the Syrians are clinging to the Al-Biqa' region not only because of its strategic importance for Syria, but primarily because of the profits the brothers Al-Asad make from the hashish trade there.

In this constellation of business competition there is no room for the Israeli side. Israel continues to use phrases like defending peace in the Galilee, and repeatedly emphasizes it is not interested in a slice of "the Lebanese pie" nor even any profits on the side.

The congratulatory messages Hafiz al-Asad has been receiving from Konstantin Chernenko, the Soviet Union's newly installed leader, for his success in bringing about the abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese accord indicate the new political momentum he is gaining, but under the surface there is a battle between Moscow and Damascus for the election of the successor — whether he will be Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas, in whom Moscow is interested; or Rif'at Al-Asad, Hafiz's brother, who has built himself a mansion in the United States.

From the top of the Jabal al-Baruk ridge the deployment of the Syrian forces in Lebanon can be observed, but it would be difficult to see that the Syrian Administration, which has just now scored a diplomatic victory over the United States in the form of the abrogation of the 17 May accord, is now experiencing one of its toughest moments.

At the height of the dogfights between Israeli and Syrian aircraft over the Al-Biqa', Hafiz al-Asad was capable of ordering that Syrian missile batteries be used to shoot down the planes, realizing that the Syrian aircraft, too, could be hit. His nerves are strong, and they have withstood the test over the many months of Saudi mediation. His nerves may be strong, but he has no control over his physical halth, and when the bell tolls for a possible retirement, new political possibilities may open up, above and beyond what is discernible now from the top of Jabal al-Baruk, and beyond the political implications of the abrogation of the 17 May agreement.

Traffic along the Beirut-Damascus highway can be seen from the peak of Jabal al-Baruk and on the Al-Awwali bridge one can sense the initial signs of the partition that is paralyzing Lebanon — a division which may be stronger than the division into zones of influence between Israel and Syria.

By force of the Syrian pressure, the Druze and Shi'ites agreed to accept the continued term in office of Amin al-Jumayyil (and note carefully: his term, not rule) [kehuna, lo mimshal]. But this influence will not survive when a new key to the allocation of pieces from the "Lebanese pie" is determined. The Shi'ites want part of the central authority, in proportion to their numbers among the population, while the Druze want self-rule, a canton, so as not to be eaten up by the Shi'ites. For the moment, the Druze and the Shi'ites are collaborating against the Christians, but tomorrow or the day after the Druze may find themselves shortchanged, outnumbered by the Shi'ites and pushed to the sidelines, with the Syrians supporting the Shi'ites.

When the IDF moves southward, the Shi'ites and Christians may strike at the Palestinians, who for the moment enjoy Israeli protection.

Therefore, when one tours Lebanon, the day after Amin al-Jumayyil announced the abrogation of the agreement with Israel, one cannot see things only from the angle of how to get out of this quagmire; it is necessary to try to see how this breaking away process would affect the balance of power between Syria and Israel and how it will influence the position of the two superpowers in their competition in this region.

Up until the abrogation of the accord with Lebanon, the United States was the superpower that was active in the Lebanon crisis, whereas the passive Soviet Union stood aside. Now the danger exists that the roles will be reversed. The Soviet leader congratulated Al-Asad on the abrogation of the Lebanese agreement, whereas the United States refuses to comply with the Saudis' plea that it be active in the Lebanese reconciliation.

As the trend in the United States toward nonintervention strengthens, so the Soviet daredevilry increases: One of the Politburo leaders will visit Damascus this week, while the president's special enovy stays in Washington; Moscow has been warning Washington against intervention in the Persian Gulf and Washington talks about the absence of U.S. strength to intervene. Soviet involvement could polarize and radicalize the Damascus administration's position. This administration, in dire straits despite its diplomatic victory in Beirut, could derive encouragement as a result of the increased U.S. isolationism.

If Israel now strengthens the U.S. isolationist inclinations by folding up too quickly in Lebanon, the opportunity for a settlement in Lebanon — acceptable to Israel and a Syria in distress — might be missed.

Besides, upsetting the superpower balance, with the United States retreating and the Soviet Union riding high on the waves

of the Syrian success, could be detrimental to peace in the region as a whole. It is highly debatable whether Israel should, by its move, encourage a process in which the United States backs away from its commitments in the region.

On the way back we saw the *USS New Jersey*, which sailed off the Lebanese coasts, anchored opposite Haifa. It is still in our area, but the voices emanating from the U.S. election campaign trail call for an end to U.S. involvement, namely the withdrawal of the *New Jersey* from the region.

These calls could also stem from the assessment that the United States lacks sufficient manpower in the region to carry out all its missions.

So we will be well advised to pay attention to all these voices, precisely when we are engaged in an internal debate over the date of the withdrawal from Lebanon.

Guatemalan Communications Minister Arrives 12 Mar
TA121634 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1625 GMT 12 Mar 84

["Announcement by the Spokesman for the Communications Ministry" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem, 12 Mar (ITIM) — Guatemala's minister of communications, transport, and public works, Mr L. H. Solares Aguilar, arrived in Israel today as the guest of the government. He was welcomed by Communications Minister Mr Mordekhay Tzipori. During his stay in Israel, the visiting minister will tour electronics industry plants and will observe water and public works projects.

Briefs

New Knesset Member — Tzvi Shiloah, a member of the Movement for Greater Israel, has been sworn into the Knesset. He replaces Hanan Porat, of Tehiya, who resigned. [Text][Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 12 Mar 84 TA]

ALGERIA

Iran's Velayati, Delegation Continue Visit

Meet With FLN Officials

LD132336 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and officer in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Party Central Committee, this afternoon received at the Zeighut Yousouf Palace the Iranian delegation which is paying an official visit to Algeria headed by Dr 'Ali Akhbar Velayati, the foreign affairs minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

At this meeting, an exchange of viewpoints on current international issues, particularly those of mutual interest, took place. The two sides also reviewed their bilateral relations. The meeting was attended by the brother members of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee — Abderrezak Bouhara, who is in charge of foreign relations; Mouloud Kassem, who is in charge of the higher council on national language; and Chafik Laroussi, member of the Permanent Secretariat at the disposal of the officer in charge of the Permanent Secretariat — along with the ambassadors of the two countries. Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akhbar Velayati was also received by Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi, member of the Political Bureau and prime minister.

Ibrahimi, Velayati Talks Reported

LD130833 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The Algerian-Iranian talks began in Algiers yesterday between Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the FLN Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs, and his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akhbar Velayati, in the presence of their closest aides. The first round of the talks covered bilateral relations and the international problems.

Velayati Meets Assembly President

LD131037 Tehran IRNA in English 1015 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Algiers, March 13, IRNA — Iran's foreign minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati met and held talks with Algeria's president of the National Assembly, Rabah Bitat, here Monday. In his talks with the Algerian official, Dr Velayati said that Majlis (the Islamic Consultative Assembly) plays a crucial role in the administration of the affairs of the country. He also said that Imam Khomeyni and other ranking officials place utmost the Majlis as a principal pillar of the government. [sentence as received]

The president of the National Assembly of Algeria welcomed the visit to Algiers by Dr. Velayati as head of the visiting Iranian delegation, and noted that in April of this year deputies from 27 African parliaments would convene in Algiers, a meeting which would be of consequence to the destiny of the African people. The Algerian official also expressed his best wishes to Iran's Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Velayati Comments on Talks

LD131117 Tehran IRNA in English 1036 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Algiers, March 13, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati told IRNA here that in talks with his Algerian counterpart, Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, political issues of the Islamic and Third World countries were discussed. He said that in-depth talks were held on problems facing the African states who are increasingly becoming victims of the superpowers' plots, especially those of the U.S. and Zionists which desire to make certain African countries their satellites. Both sides mutually agreed to work to eliminate this danger.

Velayati added that the shadow of expansion of nuclear arms to the Third World and the installation of medium-range nuclear weapons were other issues discussed between the two sides. The Iranian foreign minister also that Third World countries were the principal victims of the arms race between East and West, adding that only through reliance on Islam could the oppressed confront such an issue. He added that the Algiers accord and the U.S. contravention of regulations at the Hague were discussed with the Algerian foreign minister.

Also discussed at the meeting, Velayati said, were economic ties between the two countries, adding that positive steps have already been taken in this field. He said that both sides expressed the hope that the exchange of technical and agricultural cooperation would pave the way for a strengthening of bilateral economic relations. Velayati also said that committees would be formed to follow up on technical issues.

Concerning the expansion of cultural relations between Iran and Algeria, Velayati said that the draft of a letter of understanding had been signed, and that he hoped that with efforts by the two sides preliminary agreements would be implemented.

Bilateral Talks Continue

GF140757 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The second round of negotiations between a political delegation from Iran, headed by Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign minister, with Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, the Algerian foreign minister and other ministry officials began yesterday.

At the end of the session, in referring to the issues discussed, Mr Velayati first noted the issue of Lebanon, saying: Currently, parts of Lebanon are unfortunately occupied by the Zionist regime. However, the point which gives one hope about Lebanon is the evacuation of the aggressive Multinational Forces headed by the United States. Furthermore, it is very important that the United States has admitted to defeat in Lebanon.

He added: We hope that the intensification of the struggle of the Muslim people of Lebanon will lead to the establishment of a government desired by the people of that country. With

reference to the role of the reactionary countries of the region in pushing Lebanon toward the United States and the Zionist regime, he said: These countries are trying very hard to destroy the sovereign right of the Lebanese people to establish an independant government with popular support, by pushing the Camp David accord.

According to our reports, at the end of the meeting the Algerian foreign minister expressed happiness with Mr Velayati's trip to Algeria and asked for further such meetings and cooperation in economic and technical affairs.

During the session, Mr Velayati also again stressed the need for the unity of the Islamic countries to oppose international oppression.

Finland's Sorsa, Trade Delegation Visit for Talks

Arrival in Algiers

LD131056 Helsinki Domestic Service in Finnish 0600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[From the "Radio Magazine" program]

[Text] Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa arrived late last night in Algeria, the second destination on his visit to North Africa.

Relations between Finland and Algeria are chiefly commercial; Finland exports some goods and imports phosphates. Eight-five percent of Algeria's trade goes to the West, and the country has recently approached its former mother country, France. Erkki Toivanen reports:

Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa, in a statement at Algiers airport, said he regards it as a great honor to be the first head of a Finnish Government to make an official visit to Algeria. Finland recognized Algeria soon after its independence and established an embassy here, which reflected the respect enjoyed by Algeria's international political position. However, high-level visits have not taken place, despite attempts.

The road from Algiers airport to the city was decorated with flags. The red crescents and blue crosses of the flags waved in the brisk, cool wind from the sea, and there were also pictures of Prime Minister Sorsa and of his host, Abdelhamid Brahimi. This was seen as an exceptional gesture reflecting the interest felt here in the visit.

Relations between Finland and Algeria have been limited chiefly to trade. Among the developing countries, Algeria is Finland's third most important trading partner, after Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Last year, Finland exported products worth about 500 million Finnish markkas to Algeria. We bought Algerian products, chiefly phosphates, worth less than 20 million Finnish markkas, about 4 percent of its exports. Thus there is an imbalance in trade to Finland's advantage, and the hosts understandably wish this to be corrected, even though imports from Finland are only about 1 percent of Algeria's foreign trade, which is dominated by oil and natural gas, which Finland cannot buy in order to improve the situation.

Prime Minister Sorsa is accompanied by a large trade delegation, and economic issues will be discussed at the talks, which start today. Eighty-five percent of Algeria's trade goes to the Western industrial countries, and in the past few years the country's government has increasingly tried to strengthen political relations with them, as is shown by its rapprochement with its former mother country, France.

Algeria's President Chadli Bendjedid observes a more open foreign policy in order that Algeria should not be isolated in questions closest to it: security of the Mediterranean region; cooperation among the states of Northern Africa, the Maghreb, the Middle East and Africa; and the so-called South-North problems. On all these matters Prime Minister Sorsa will exchange views when he meets today with the prime minister and foreign minister.

Algeria's role in the Nonaligned Movement is still very important; it acted as a mediator in the solution of the Iranian-U.S. hostage conflict, and now the Iranian foreign minister is expected here at the start of soundings for a reconciliation in the Iraqi-Iranian war. Just as in Tunisia last week, Prime Minister Sorsa will obtain first-hand information about urgent international crises.

Ibrahimi Receives Finnish Visitor

LD132323 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs, this afternoon received Finnish Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa. The meeting was attended by Dr Abdelhak Berehi, minister of higher education and scientific research, and by the Algerian ambassador in Helsinki and the Finnish ambassador in Algiers.

The talks dealt with issues of common concern, particularly the situation in the Middle East and Africa.

Sorsa on Talks, 'Arafat

LD140029 Helsinki Domestic Service in Finnish 2000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Finnish-Algerian relations — in particular economic issues — characterized the talks that Premier Kalevi Sorsa conducted today in Algiers. It was agreed in the talks that in accordance with an agreement regulating the countries' economic, technical, and scientific cooperation, a joint committee meet for the first time next fall. Our correspondent Erkki Toivanen asked Premier Sorsa after the talks to give his opinion about the protest that Israel has made to Finland. Israel today handed in a protest as a result of Premier Sorsa's meeting with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat in Tunisia.

[Begin recording] [Sorsa] [Words indistinct] On the other hand, my meeting with 'Arafat was a continuation of the contacts that

Finland has had with the PLO [words indistinct].

[Toivanen] How would you describe the talks that the two delegations held this afternoon?

[Sorsa] (?As regards) our mutual relations, there are no political problems. We have both noted that there is room for economic development and the two sides are willing to move toward broader cooperation.

[Toivanen] Have the Algerians demanded that the (?irritating) structural disproportion be corrected through some concrete measures?

[Sorsa] We discussed the issue. It is in Finland's interest, too, that trade should be [word indistinct] more balanced, if only we can find suitable imports or international trade items, and that is not completely impossible either.

ASH-SHA'B on Abrogation of 17 May Agreement

PM121428 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 6 Mar 84 p 1

[Editorial: "The Lebanese Lesson"]

[Text] During an extraordinary meeting it held yesterday under the chairmanship of President Amin al-Jumayyil, the Lebanese Cabinet decided to abrogate the 17 May 1983 agreement with Israel. So the agreement, which was imposed on Lebanon, did not last more than 10 months. It has collapsed under the blows of the Lebanese popular resistance and in the face of steadfastness and determination to bring that agreement down as a condition for national reconciliation.

When the agreement, which provided for an end to the state of war, security arrangements, and the normalization of relations, was signed, Lebanon was still in a state of shock as a result of the Zionist invasion which resulted in the terrible devastation of Lebanon's civilian and economic establishments and institutions. The United States played a decisive part in forcing that agreement on the Lebanese regime by exploiting two main pressure factors. The first factor was the Israeli military occupation of southern Lebanon, and the second was the fact that the Phalangists reached the height of power as a result of the Israeli invasion. Washington had imagined that under Zionist occupation and Phalangist rule it could rearrange the situation in Lebanon and the entire region, and exploit the Zionist occupation and its results to serve its strategic objective of dominating the Middle East.

But by imposing the 17 May agreement, Washington committed two strategic mistakes:

1. It ignored the Lebanese people's vital interests and gravely underestimated the Lebanese national resistance and its ability to confront the Zionist occupation and the U.S. designs.

2. It ignored the Arab resistance and the influence certain international sides have on the course of events in Lebanon and the region.

As a result of these two mistakes, the United States found itself bogged deep in the Lebanese quagmire and unable to control or influence events. The Lebanese nationalist forces' steadfastness and resistance against the Zionist occupation and U.S. designs played a major and principal part in foiling the U.S. policy in Lebanon and bringing down the 17 May agreement. The fall of that agreement is a resounding victory for the Lebanese nationalist forces and their splendid fight against U.S. designs. Equally, the abrogation of the 17 May agreement is a military and political defeat for the United States and the Zionist occupation.

This failure of the U.S. policies and schemes opens new horizons for the Arab nationalist forces and gives them a chance to benefit from the Lebanese lesson and to confront the Zionist and imperialist onslaught and stem its tide, which is in fact already receding. The Lebanese lesson proves that steadfastness by the nationalist forces, however small and however limited their capabilities may be, can defeat imperialist designs even of such superpowers as the United States. That is what is happening in Lebanon today.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Interviewed by AL-AHALI

PM131005 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 7 Mar 84 p 7

[Interview with Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by 'Aydah al-'Azab Musa in Tripoli — date not given]

[Excerpts] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi received us in the small tent in which he receives all his visitors, be they heads of state or ordinary citizens. He offers them orange juice or green tea and it is up to the visitor to choose a cold or hot drink. Reading from a paper, the colonel asked me: A journalist writing in an opposition paper *AL-AHALI* and working for a pro-government paper *ROSE AL-YUSUF*? This is contradictory. Egypt is full of contradictions.

I said: This is not a contradiction but evidence of our democracy.

He said: How can you talk about democracy and yet obliterate facts about Libya? What do you know about Libya? Did you read the Green Book? Why is it not allowed to be circulated and discussed in Egypt? The Green Book contains a theory that has shocked the world and is being taught in some universities.

As he talked, the most important thing that concerned the colonel was how to prod the Arab masses toward achieving unity. But what concerned me most was the closure of the Egyptian-Libyan borders and the endless problems it is causing to the peoples of both countries; such as the need to transit through several countries in order to be able to travel between the two countries, the documentation of passports, the registration of marriage or death certificates, the transfer of remittances by Egyptians working in Libya, or the banning of certain visits.

I asked: Putting higher politics and political differences aside, on the level of human relationships heads of state have a responsibility toward their peoples.

It is the Egyptian regime which is responsible for the closure of borders between us, said Al-Qadhdhafi. Last year the borders were reopened but Egypt closed them again after 7 hours. Israel and the United States hate to see the Egyptian and Libyan peoples mixing with one another. In any case, I am prepared to open the borders on the condition that the Egyptian side shows a positive attitude. Steps should be taken simultaneously by both sides and on the same level.

AL-AHRAM: You speak about unity and yet you are responsible for and have contributed to the disruption from which the Arab homeland is suffering. What have you done on your part toward this unity?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I have made moves and taken initiatives against my better judgement. [as published] I have visited Arab regimes with which I differed. After [the battle of] Beirut the Arab regimes' impotence in confrontation and liberation became evident; they showed an inability to defend Arab rights, and we have found ourselves in a serious situation. We no longer hear about the Arab nation but we hear talk about the Maronite nation. For this reason I visited Arab regimes with which I differed. I told them that we are in real danger; Arabism is being destroyed and Zionism is planning to disperse the whole Arab nation.

Israel's battle now is a battle for water. It wants to absorb 12 million Jews in Israel. For this reason, it is striving to control water resources in the Arab homeland — the Jordan River and its tributaries and the Al-Litani River and its tributaries. It is hoping to partition Lebanon and Syria. The next blow will be against Syria, and if they succeed in smashing it they will certainly turn toward Egypt.

The Jews regard Sinai as a holy land and part of Israel. The question of Sinai is deferred until Israel finishes with the Palestinian resistance. Once this is done, they will destroy Syria and draw water from the Al-Yarmuk and the Euphrates Rivers. They will then turn toward the oilfields in the Arab homeland in collaboration with the Americans. After the battle for the oil is over, we will enter into conflict over the holy places: Jerusalem, Mecca, and Medina. Jerusalem has already been swallowed. As for Mecca, they claim that Abraham, peace be upon him, built it. They regard Khaybar as a Jewish city.

AL-AHRAM: What was the response to your initiative?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Saudi Arabia agreed only in words. The king of Morocco said: We are fighting the Sahara battle. Help us to finish it and take the army to fight Israel. As for the king of Jordan, his attitude was defeatist. He is turning his back on Jerusalem and Palestine. I tried to reconcile Syria and Jordan and King Husayn was ready to go with me to Syria, but Syria refused.

AL-AHRAM: In the light of the present Arab disruption, what in your opinion is the best form of Arab action in order to reach a minimum of agreement?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The Arab regimes and the Arab military have suffered defeat in Beirut; there must be something new. There must be a change in th basic structure of the Arab nation. The unity I am proposing is not a unity between regimes but rather between the millions of Arabs. In my estimation, there must be an end to regular armies to be replaced by the armed people. The Arab millions did not enter the battle. My ideal was 'Abd an-Nasir and the only time that I stood against him was when he decided to step down. I was expecting him to arm the Egyptian people instead of thinking of stepping down. I told him so. I do not believe in conventional wars and regular armies. The regular army must disappear in order to be replaced by the armed masses.

AL-AHRAM: Let us put fancy aside and talk about reality and what is possible.

Al-Qadhdhafi: In the light of the catastrophe in which we find ourselves, I have proposed yet another formula for Arab action. It does not achieve the desired unity, but it will remain a part of it. Let every regime remain as it is — the monarchist a monarchist and the republican a republican. But let there be periodic bilateral meetings between officials — say between Libya and Tunisia for example. Let the ministers of both governments sit down and take decisions together on education, health or the economy. Other similar meetings will be held between Libya and Algeria. Thus, bilateral meetings will become tripartite and will expand. At a certain stage, we find a number of ministers from several countries meeting and taking decisions jointly. This will gradually remove differences and unity will ultimately be achieved.

Meetings actually took place between representatives of the Libyan General People's Committee (the Libyan Government) and the Tunisian Government in early 1983. After this meeting, the number of Tunisian brothers working in Libya increased by 30,000 to 100,000. We also agreed with the Moroccan Government that representatives of both governments meet every 6 months alternately in both countries. The first meetings took place in January of this year. This will achieve rapprochement between the Arab masses. As for forms of unity based on plans such as the fertile crescent or the unity of the Nile valley, they are a serious thing and divide rather than unite the Arab nation.

At this point of the interview the talk moved from Arab issues to African issues...

AL-AHRAM: Does the African majority, in your opinion, understand the Chad situation or is it under the influence of francophonism? Does the present quiet and calm situation spell the danger of partitioning?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Africa is divided into two parts: a progressive part that supports Goukouni Oueddei and Libya, and other part, which belongs to the imperialist camp (the United States and Israel), supporting Habre because he is an agent of that camp. We are against the partitioning of Chad. But the situation which France created — that is, drawing a line from one given point to another — practically divides Chad.

AL-AHRAM: The Libyan press is jubilant about the mutiny in southern Sudan, while Khartoum accuses Libya of supporting

the secession of southern Sudan. Is this action not against Arab unity?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Although I am against any secessionist movement and lead a unity movement, I am certain that southern Sudan is neither Arab nor Muslim. It is negro: Christian and pagan. If southern Sudan is part of Sudan, Chad should be an extension of Libya. Chad is like Sudan and southern Sudan is like southern Chad. Nevertheless, I am against the partitioning of Sudan; that is, against the secession of Sudan. But southern Sudan is forced to revolt. It has given sufficient chance to the Khartoum Government without avail. [answer ends]

These are the colonel's words: I publish them verbatim, despite reservations.

AL-AHALI: Where does Libya stand in relation to the Great Maghreb. Why are the bilateral relations and axis [between its countries] fluctuating between on and off?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Libya is the heart of the Arab homeland; it is a link between its east and its west; for its role is to unify and to lead, and not to be aligned with any of them.

AL-AHALI: There is a truce between France and Libya despite the fact that France is playing the United States' role in Africa.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes, there is no difference between the U.S. role and the French role in Africa, particularly in Chad. But dialogue with France is possible, while with the United States it is impossible.

Rally Masses Issue Message for Al-Qadhdhafi

LD1315.56 Tripoli JANA in English 1419 GMT 13 Mar 94

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 8, March 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Egyptian masses participating in a huge unity rally which took place in Tripoli this morning sent a message to the revolution's leader. The text is as follows:

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of Arab nationalism, the Arab revolution's greetings.

The Egyptian Arab masses participating in the rally of protest against regional, artificial borders is hereby stating its unlimited support to the content of your historical national speech on the 8th of March 1984, drawing attention to the credibility of your analysis that the present Arab situation would not be liberated unless people's revolution [words indistinct]. We hail your revolutionary sincerity and unlimited support for the Arab national cause and we appreciate your strong struggle for the sake of Arab unity. We support the readmission [as received] of Camp David and the return of Egypt to the Union of Arab Republics.

We congratulate you on the decisive victory gained by Lebanese patriotic and national forces over U.S. arrogance together with the Zionist-crusade alliance by tearing up the 17th May treaty of shame, thanks to your effective, steadfast support of Arab people in Syria. The marching Egyptian Arab masses are hereby confirming to you that they are determined to tear up the humiliating accords of Camp David and to launch the final battle, the objective of which is liberation and unity of the Arab nation.

The participants in the Tripoli unity party [as received] which took place this morning issued a statement. It reads as follows:

Motivated by our free national unity, the people of Arab Egypt in the Jamahiriyah will hereby gather together in this huge crowd at the gates of the Unity People's Assembly to express our response to the call by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of Arab nationalism, unity and revolution to the masses, to stick to the constitution of the United Arab Republics, to open borders between the masses and to tear up As-Sadat's treaty of treason. On this occasion, we call on the revolutionary unity inside and outside the Egyptian Arab arena to play its effective role in accelerating the downfall process of this humiliating treaty.

Hence, the Nasir land would once again be able to play its natural leading role in calling for Arab unity and revolution and liberation from the ocean to the Gulf, so that the Arab nation would regain its glory and pride and to uproot Zionism from the sacred Arab soil. We also call on the Arab people in Egypt to raise constitutional complaints on behalf of millions of citizens, trade unions and legal entities in demand for establishing constitutional courts in the countries of the United Arab Republics. In fact, that is a natural right stated in the union's constitution to be used against those who burn it and defy the will of more than 50 million Arab citizens.

The unity Arab masses in its statement stressed that it is high time that we should tear up the treaty of humiliation signed by the buried As-Sadat, similar to what the Lebanese people did by abrogating the treaty of 17 May. It is high time to throw these treaties in the faces of the Zionist enemy and Reagan's U.S. In this case, the regime has two options: either abrogate the treaty of shame and thus to join the fold of Arab revolution, or be faced by the millions who rejected submission and who decided to launch the people's liberation struggle motivated by the 'three no's' — no negotiations, no reconciliation, and no recognition of the enemy is the proverb that "what is taken by force shall not be regained but by force."

We today, in this huge crowd, strongly believe that freedom is not given but taken. Thus, we intend to destroy borders, to march on them and declare the revolution of the Arab people. Motivated by the belief that the liberation of Palestine and all occupied Arab territories would not be realized unless rivers of blood are shed, we hereby declare our alliance with the revolutionary movement within Fatah, the Lebanese national forces, the Jamahiriyah and Syria against the enemies of people, freedom, happiness and advancement, submissive reactionary forces, Zionism and imperialism.

The unity Arab masses, in their statement, outlined the following resolutions:

1. The tearing up of the treaty of shame signed by the buried As-Sadat,

2. The march on borders and its opening between Egypt, Syria and the Jamahiriyah,
3. The commitment to the constitution of the Arab Republics Union, the refusal to surrender it, and its affirmation by all means, including blood.

At the end of the statement, it is outlined that we are highly confident that our hands — which established pyramids, dug with sweat and blood the Suez Canal, and built the High Dam in Arab Egypt — will always remain capable of being the leading battalion to realize the unity of our Arab nation for the sake of glory, pride, strength and freedom.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Arab League's Klibi
LD122056 Tripoli JANA in English 1814 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Athani 7, March 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution received today Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League.

Lebanese Parliamentary Official Visits Tripoli
LD132047 Tripoli JANA in English 1829 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 9, Mar 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Colonel Fouad Lahud chairman of the Lebanese Parliamentary Defence Committee this afternoon arrived in Tripoli on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The chairman of the Lebanese Parliamentary Defence Committee gave an announcement to a JANA reporter in which he said: I would like to hail great leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the brother Libyan people and wish them complete success in realizing Arab glory and development. Whenever I visit my brother country Libya, my power of resistance increases and also my admiration for this nation which is confidently heading towards advancement.

With regard to the abrogation of the 17 May ill-fated treaty, he said: It is a factor for strengthening the Arabs, and it is certain that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had played an upper-hand role in helping us to realize this outcome.

Yemeni Planning Chief Departs Tripoli 13 Mar
LD132051 Tripoli JANA in English 1819 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 8, March 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Yemeni minister of development and chairman of the Planning Council in the Yemen Arab Republic, Muhammad Ahmed al-Junayd, and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli this afternoon after a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

During his visit, he attended the meeting of the joint Libyan Arab-Yemeni committee.

Cooperation Agreements Signed
LD132248 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, 13 Mar (JANA) — The minutes of a joint cooperation agreement between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the YAR was signed in Tripoli today at the end of the third periodic meeting of the higher Libyan-Yemeni committee. The minutes of the meeting include cooperation in the fields of agriculture, education, transport, communications, trade exchange, and investment.

The minutes also include a review of all aspects of cooperation and the methods to ensure its development, promotion and consolidation in the interest of the Libyan and Yemeni Arab peoples, and also in order to enable the two fraternal peoples to benefit from the resources which are available in the two countries and realize economic and social integration and achieve common objectives.

The minutes also include an agreement under which the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah will train a number of Yemeni students at Libyan Arab universities and institutes, and it will send a number of Libyan Arab teachers to take part in educational course at YAR preparatory schools.

The YAR side has expressed satisfaction with the aid given by the Libyan Arab people to the fraternal YAR people.

The minutes of the meeting were signed on behalf of the Libyan side by the secretary of the General Popular Committee for Planning, Brother Fawzi al-Shakshuki; and on the YAR side by Brother Muhammad Ahmad al-Junayd, minister of development and chairman of the YAR Central Organ of Planning.

'Arafat Reportedly Reveals Al-Qadhdhafi Threat
NC120903 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat has alleged that he received a threat from the brother leader of the revolution [Al-Qadhdhafi] during his presence in Tripoli, Lebanon.

In a statement published in the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-ANBA'* the night before last, 'Arafat said: I received a threat from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi that if I did not withdraw within a specific time, he would storm Tripoli. In his statement, 'Arafat revealed that he received aid from Algeria during his presence in Tripoli, Lebanon.

MAURITANIA

Changes in Regional Military Command Reported
AB132015 Paris AFP in French 1021 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Nouakchott, 12 Mar (AFP) — Changes have been made in the regional military command whose members are also members of the ruling CMSN, it was learned from an informed source in the Mauritanian capital on Sunday. These changes follow last Thursday's cabinet reshuffle during which former

Prime Minister Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, whose post has been abolished, was appointed chief of staff of the Army. The deputy chief of staff, Lieutenant Colonel Moulaye Ould Boukhreiss, has been appointed commander of the joint services school at Atat. He is replaced at his former post by Lieutenant Colonel Anne Amadou Ly, formerly minister of industry and mines.

Likewise, former Minister of Interior Colonel Ahmedou Ould Abdallah has been appointed commander of the Second Military Region of Zouerat, in the northern part of the country, a region which is considered one of the most important because of its proximity to Western Sahara. Also, Lieutenant Colonel Papa Diallo, formerly commander of the joint services school at Atat, has been appointed commander of the First Military Region of Nouadhibou.

Captain Bcang, commander of the First Region, has been transferred to the Fifth Region (Nema, in the southeastern part of the country). Captain Ely Ould Ahmed Vall has been posted to the Sixth Region of Nouakchott. Captain Diop Djibril, formerly commander of the Fifth Region, has been appointed deputy permanent secretary to the CMSN.

These changes fall within the framework of a rotation of senior staff officers, informed sources stated in Nouakchott.

MOROCCO

MAP: Algeria 'Falsifies' Joint Communique

LD131501 Rabat MAP in English 1203 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Rabat, Mar 13 (MAP) — For the Algerian press, distorting facts and falsifying truths is a process we have been accustomed to. But to go so far as to put at stake a "brotherly and friendly" country is a new style in the "information" circulated by the Algerian media, wrote the Moroccan news agency MAP.

Commenting on the joint communique that was released following the talks between the Tunisian Destourian Party (SDP) and the Algerian National Liberation Front [FLN], MAP added that the said communique — or rather the (?paragraph on) the Sahara — was differently reported by the Tunisian news agency TAP and the Algerian press agency APS. While the latter noted the two parties' support of the idea of "direct negotiations between the Kingdom of Morocco and the so-called 'Polisario,' and of independence of the Sahrawi people, TAP only reaffirmed the Tunisian stand, namely that the Sahara issue must be settled on the basis of the resolutions of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

This makes one wonder: Where is the true version? Were there, contrary to usage, two joint communiques completing one another or mutually exclusive? This confusion — let's say diversion — created by the Algerian press, was clarified by Tunisia in the aftermath of the joint SDP-NFL communique. "Only the version given by the news agency TAP engages the SDP and Tunisia. Any version published abroad engages by no way Tunisia" declared a responsible source from the SDP on Friday. "Tunisia has not changed its known stand," the same source added.

Maneuvers, dealings, and slanderous campaigns undertaken by the Algerian press have not therefore been sufficient to ensure a greater support to the Algerian [word indistinct] on the eve of the upcoming African summit. [Words indistinct] it necessary to resort to contemptuous [word indistinct] (?diversions); perjury, lies, the accomplished fact and the flight ahead.

[Word indistinct] The pillars of diplomacy, when short of arguments, resort to any means. But to go so far as to betray the spirit of concertation [as received] with a neighboring country, is more than a political heresy. It is a step that no sound person dares to make. Tunisia's stance regarding Arab and African issues is well-known; there is apparently no labyrinth in Tunisian diplomacy.

One wonders about the objective aimed at by Algeria in spreading such slander. Was it aimed at drawing Tunisia into its orbit as it had done with Mauritania and in this case, this would be an evident misinterpretation? [sentence as received] Was it aimed at presenting Morocco as an isolated country?

Whatever the purpose, it is a lie. Morocco, sure of the rightness of her cause, remains strongly attached to her stance which was widely explained at the OAU and at the United Nations as well. This stance was reaffirmed by King Hassan II in the message addressed last month to the president of Ethiopia and acting chairman of the OAU, Mengistu Haile Mariam.

"It is exactly the essence of things and the basic aspect of the problem that we should be concerned with," the royal message (?stated). "In our view, the problem of the cease-fire and the organization of the referendum remains the essential thing, and all those who claim otherwise are only [word indistinct] Africa on a perilous track that may expose the continent to the most serious consequennces."

"So far as we are (?concerned), we have definitely agreed to comply with the terms of a cease-fire as well as the ways and means and conditions [word indistinct] the Organization of African Unity," the sovereign's message went on.

"It is on these points, which alone constitute the essence of the problem, that Morocco felt (?bound) towards [word indistinct] African community, by acts of free sovereignty, inspired [words indistinct] and the need to save the African unity from danger...Any other controversies, [word indistinct] futile, can only slow [words indistinct] among the African states whose unity guarantees the future," the royal message concluded.

SUDAN

Mubarak 'Regrets' Ethiopian Stand on Nairobi

JN121912 Khartoum SUNA in English 1755 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Mar (SUNA) — Sudan today expressed regret towards the failure of the Ethiopian Government to respond to the call for a bilateral meeting between the foreign

ministers of the two countries scheduled for today in Nairobi.

Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak in a statement today expressed Sudan's regret towards the Ethiopian decision calling off the scheduled meeting at the Kenyan capital of Nairobi today to negotiate differences between the two neighboring countries. The minister reaffirmed that the Sudanese initiative rejected by Ethiopia issued forth from Sudan's keen interest and commitment to the essentials of its foreign policy, built on good neighborliness and the resolution of disputes through peaceful means. The purpose of such a policy is to live in perpetual peace far from causes of dissension, the statement added. It is only then that we could free ourselves and address the issues of economic and social development,the statement said.

The foreign affairs minister said: "We were surprised when the Ethiopian Government announced, a few hours before the scheduled time, that it would not take part in the meeting on grounds that an arms airlift was established between the U.S. and the Sudan, and that Ethiopia would reject any Egyptian mediation."

Mubarak stressed that Egypt "has only supported a Sudanese initiative" and that it has never wanted to be a third party in the meeting. Egypt's main target, Mubarak said, was to make the Sudanese and Ethiopian sides meet to hold a dialogue and conduct negotiations. Mubarak affirmed his desire to hold a direct bilateral meeting adding that "Nairobi is nothing more than a venue for the meeting."

Elaborating on the American arms airlift to Sudan referred to by Ethiopia as a cause for refusing to hold the postponed meeting, the statement stressed that the airlift issue was categorically denied by Sudan at the highest level. At the same time, the foreign minister emphasized that the mere mention of the issue itself as one of the causes for postponing the meeting constitutes an interference in Sudanese internal affairs.

Sudan had never interfered in Ethiopian domestic affairs, despite the foreign military presence inside it and the foreign military purchases it makes, yet from the same logic and objectivity denies others from interfering in its internal affairs, the statement said. The matter, as defined by international law and charters which govern relations between nations, falls in the core of the "sovereignty right" of each nation, the statement went on.

Foreign Minister Mubarak concluded that: "In implementation of President Numayri's directives and in implementation of our declared foreign policy, we will exert more efforts to settle our conflicts through diplomatic channels." He stressed that: "We shall always remain the advocates of peace in Africa. Our target is to replace conflicts by peace in all the African Continent so as to achieve Africa's progress and prosperity."

At-Tayyib Receives Equatorial Region Governor

JN102049 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 10 Mar (SUNA) — First Vice President Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib has acquainted himself with the security situation in the Equatorial Region. This came during his reception here today of James Tambarah, governor of the Equatorial Region, who described the security situation in the region as very calm, and said that the regions' citizens adhere to their revolution and its accomplishments in all fields.

In press statements, Tambarah also said that he had discussed with the first vice president the issue of transporting supplies to the region and maintaining and commissioning the projects of the industrial compound, Anzara, whose maintenance is financed by the Arab development fund in Kuwait.

Regarding the Marxist-Leninist thought that the so-called liberation movement of Sudan calls for, Tambarah said: Communism has no place in southern Sudan and does not apply to Sudan because the Sudanese people — whether Muslims, Christians or other religious factions — have faith in and adhere to religion and are proud of their values, conventions and habits. In this regard, he also asserted that the citizens in the southern regions have stressed their firm support for leader President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, the leader of the revolution.

President Numayri Receives New French Envoy

JN101458 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 10 Mar (SUNA) — During his reception today of the credentials of Charles Jantilio, French ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Sudan, President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri delivered a speech in which he asserted Sudan's appreciation of France's role in the international arena, its position on the Lebanese crisis in particular, and its role during the Palestinian leadership's departure from Lebanon. He also praised France's role in Africa and its understanding of the African Continent's problems, and the need to reach peaceful solutions to the African problems and differences.

President Numayri also noted his feelings about the strong relations between Sudan and France in the various areas, praising France's intellectual role and its support for Sudan in the various fields. Numayri asked the ambassador to convey his greetings and best wishes to President Francois Mitterrand and his best wishes for prosperity and progress for the French people.

The French ambassador also delivered a speech in which he affirmed that he would seek to strengthen the existing excellent relations between the two countries. [words indistinct].

TUNISIA

Two Army Soldiers Executed for Treason

LD131158 Kuwait KUNA in English 1125 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Tunis, March 13 (KUNA) — Two armymen were Tuesday executed by firing squad after being convicted by a military court on charges of treason and theft.

A Defense Ministry statement identified the two soldiers as

Abdallah bin Ahmad bin Bulqassem and Mohammed bin Ali Ramadan, and said they were guilty of leaking classified state security reports to a foreign embassy and of abusing their posts. Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba refused to commute the sentence.

The ministry's statement, however, would not specify the ranks or nature of work of the two convicts, nor what embassy they gave the classifed information to.

ETHIOPIA

Joint Development Protocol Signed With USSR

EA132106 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] A protocol for joint development cooperation between Ethiopia and the USSR was signed this afternoon. It provides for a joint development cooperation program embracing agriculture, industry, mining, energy production, irrigation development and trade. The protocol was signed by Comrade Mersie Ejigu, who holds the rank of minister, head of the General Planning Sector of the Central Supreme Council and COPWE Central Committee member, on behalf of the Ethiopian Government and Comrade Lakhtin, deputy chairman of the Soviet State Planning Committee, on behalf of his government in a ceremony held at the National Revolutionary Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council hall.

SPLA Chief Details Situation in Southern Sudan

EA122218 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpts] The pregnant West German citizen, Mrs Ursula Morson, who was among the recent hostages of the Sudanese National Liberation Forces (SNLF) along with her 18 month-old child, was handed over yesterday to the Ethiopian Government.

In a statement during the handing over of the hostages on the border, Colonel Dr John Garinge de Mavier, commander in chief of the SPLA [Sudan Peoples Liberation Army] and chairman of the Sudanese Peoples Liberation Movement [SPLM], said the decision by the liberation forces to release Mrs Ursula Morson and her child on its own initiative and without any preconditions was a humanitarian act intended to demonstrate goodwill to the French International Construction Company and the FRG Government.

Colonel Dr Garinge said that contrary to what the Sudanese Government was trying to put across convincingly, the SPLA was not trying to split the country, but to establish a strong socialist Sudan based on the economic and social development of the people, and religious equality. Colonel Dr Garinge stated that the liberation forces had condemned the Numayri Government because the Sudanese Government was unwilling to implement the agreement reached in Addis Ababa in 1972, which was intended to bring a solution to the 17-year-old civil war, and because the government had aggravated the problem. Garinge added that the SPLA had condemned the Numayri regime because the Sudanese Government had attempted to illegally change southern Sudan's border.

Referring in his statement to the continually worsening problem of southern Sudan, the leader of the SPLA said the Sudanese Government had been blaming foreign forces for the situation. He pointed out that the allegations of the Sudanese Government that Moscow, Tripoli, Addis Ababa or Havana were the causes of the problems were totally unacceptable to all. He added that the causes of these problems should not receive any support from other democratic and peace-loving peoples, for they were problems created by the Sudanese Government, and any such aid could only serve to prolong the suffering of the Sudanese people and result in bitterness between the donors and the people.

Referring to the hostages, he said the SPLA had no quarrel whatsoever with CCI [International Construction Company] Chevron, the Total Company, and similar bodies. He stressed that the liberation force had only destroyed some of the plants belonging to these companies after giving them ample warning. He said in substantiation of this that on 19 October 1983, employees of CCI had been captured and freed 3 days later, adding that this had happened after southern Sudan had declared itself a war zone and after the SPLA had notified foreign-owned companies to stop work. He said that because these foreign companies had persisted in operating in southern Sudan, the goodwill of the liberation forces had not received an appropriate reply.

He pointed out that after all these efforts, the SPLA had ended its repeated humanitarian admonishments. He explained that before attacking towns, the liberation forces would warn residents to vacate in the same way. Colonel Dr Garinge said that the liberation forces had warned foreign holdings in southern Sudan for the same reason, adding that the Sudanese Government and CCI were fully responsible for the sufferings of Mrs Morson and her child, because they had ignored repeated warnings.

TANZANIA

Mozambique's Machel Delivers Speech to Party Body

MB131313 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1830 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Speech by Mozambique President Samora Machel at meeting of Chama Cha Mapinduzi National Executive Committee in Dodoma, Tanzania on 11 March — recorded]

[Excerpts] Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, chairman of the Chama Cha Mapinduzi [CCM] and president of the United Republic of Tanzania; Ndugu Ali Mwinyi, chairman ad interim of the Revolutionary Council and president ad interim of Zanzibar; esteemed members of the National Executive Committee: We are profoundly touched by the honor with which our CCM brothers have decided to distinguish the Frelimo party by inviting me to address this historic session of the supreme organization of your party. Before this august meeting, I want to convey the warmest revolutionary greetings of the Central Committee and of all militants of the Frelimo Party. I also wish to convey the deep sentiments of fraternity and solidarity of the people of the People's Republic of Mozambique with the great people of the United Republic of Tanzania. [applause]

The opportunity you have given to me to participate in this meeting is the most irrefutable evidence of the intimate relationship which history has created and consolidated between our two parties, our two peoples, and their leading vanguard parties, the CCM and the Frelimo party. So, therefore, Mwalimu Nyerere and esteemed brothers, I feel that I am part of this meeting and

a militant of your party, as well as a representative of your brothers and militants who live on the other side of the Rovuma River. [applause]. The decision to come to the United Republic of Tanzania was made at the end of January, when we learned of the problems which have plagued your progress and your harmony. For this reason, in spite of the many tasks connected with the difficult process of negotiations with the Republic of South Africa, we decided to come to your country now. This meeting provides us with an opportunity to learn of your experiences to share your concerns, and to convey to each one of you our firm and unconditional support. [applause]. We want to thank you, President Nyerere and the CCM leadership, for having had the concern to keep the leadership of the Frelimo party and the Mozambique Government informed of the recent political developments which have taken place in Tanzania. The information enabled us to have a clear idea of the grave events which affected your country.

Mwalimu Nyerere and dear brothers, in our opinion the problems which Tanzania had were fundamentally caused by the political ambition of some leaders. This ambition was exploited by external forces which are interested in destroying unity — a fundamental conquest of the Tanzanian people. Those forces did not hesitate to recruit prominent members of the Revolutionary Council of Zanzibar in their designs of hegemonistic strategy in the Indian Ocean region and in their ambitions for religious expansionism. [applause] Our belief is that state and religion must always be well separated. Religion has been subordinated to political power throughout in history. Catholics, Muslims, Protestants, and animists are all Tanzanian nationals. They all find their national identity under the flag of the United Republic of Tanzania. [applause] The formation of the Tanzanian nation is a process which began 20 years ago, and it constitutes an example to our people and to all of Africa.

We cannot remain indifferent when, because of personal and petty ambitions which serve designs alien to Africa, a small group intends to liquidate this great structure which is the United Republic of Tanzania. [applause] We cannot remain indifferent when we clearly see a small group moved by petty, unimportant and unpopular interests putting at stake the supreme interest of the people and the future of Tanzanian nation. [applause] We deeply regret that this small group was able to involve a figure of the anticolonial struggle such as Aboud Jumbe in its reactionary maneuvers. For many years, as CCM deputy chairman and vice-president of the United Republic of Tanzania and president of Zanzibar, Aboud Jumbe has, in our opinion, been a tenacious struggler for the cause of the union and an unwavering defender of the interests of the Tanzanian people. In Mozambique we are used to thinking of the United Republic of Tanzania as one single and united country. We have learned to regard the Government of Tanzania as one single and united goverment, although we know that there is a government in Zanzibar which deals with the matters of that part of Tanzania. To us, Aboud Jumbe was first and foremost — despite being the president of Zanzibar — vice-president of Tanzania and deputy CCM chairman. To us, the president of Zanzibar plays an integral role in the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Aboud Jumbe did not consider this, nor did he consider the responsibility. He first and foremost regarded himself as the president of a federated or confederated state to another state. He regarded himself as the chairman of a party which had been dissolved by the creation of the CCM. We are convinced that this primarily explains his mistake. [laughter and applause] History will judge with greater severity than we why he was finally unable to act against those who regarded the destruction of Tanzania as a platform to achieve their personal objectives. [applause] Congratulations, Mwalimu. [applause]

Our experience teaches us that we have to be intransigent in the defense of our unity. We must be implacable in repressing those who attempt to destroy such unity. [applause] It is because we have this common experience that we understand perfectly the problems that our Tanzanian brothers have faced. For this reason we warmly hail the measures that have been taken by the CCM and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania in defense of national unity. [applause] We hail the courage of the National Executive Committee, which vigorously defended the people's cause, the cause of unity. [applause]

We hail the enlightened and firm leadership of our brother, comrade, and friend, President Julius Kambarage Nyerere, to whom we express our great admiration, our deep respect, and total support. [applause]

CHAD

Habre Concludes Agreement With Southern Rebels

JN132034 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Ndjamena, 13 Mar (SUNA) — The Chadian political and military delegation that Chadian President Hissein Habre sent to southern Chad to hold negotiations and dialogue with the rebel elements there within the framework of realizing national reconciliation in the country managed to reach four agreements with the rebel groups there. They are: a cease-fire, returning the armed groups to the national army, returning the civilians to their work places, and guaranteeing freedom of movement for both people and commodities in the South.

The delegation, which was lead by the Chadian minister of agriculture and rural development who has recently returned here, met with the citizens and the armed elements in the five southern provinces and spent 6 months with them in order to reach these four agreements. The head of the delegation said that the agreements concluded with the rebel elements have been implemented. As a sign of that, the commander of the green berets division was appointed commander of Military Region No 2. A number of them were also appointed to various ranks in the national army, a fact that confirms the soundness and credibility of President Habre's solution toward realizing national reconciliation in Chad. The Chadian minister also added that his delegation succeeded in its mission, and that security again prevails in southern Chad after being in a state of serious tension. He added that this was due to the agreements concluded with the rebels, who overcame their differences in order to confront Libya's threat to Chad.

The head of the delegation also said that President Habre's move in sending a delegation to southern Chad was fully appreciated by the various Chadian factions and opposition groups in the South. On the other hand, Captain (Bashir 'Ali Hakkar), head of the military side in the delegation, explained that the armed elements would be assembled at certain points in order to be returned to the national army. He asserted that this step confirms the government's determination to realize the Chadian people's unity. It is noteworthy that southern Chad has recently witnessed disturbances and acts of sabotage by armed rebel elements supported by the Libyan regime. The step taken by the political and military delegation in the south is considered to be a political and military victory for Habre that has added to his popularity, and a fatal blow to southern opposition leader Kamougue Abdelkader, who is currently in Tripoli.

GABON

Guinea's Sekou Toure Ends Visit, Returns Home

AB140638 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Guinean head of state President Ahmed Sekou Toure today completed his friendly and working visit to Gabon. The Guinean head of state and his wife, as well as the high-powered delegation accompanying them, left Libreville this morning for Conakry.

Apart from the private talks the Guinean head of state had with his Gabonese counterpart, El-Hadj Omar Bongo, President Sekou Toure also took part in the various festivities marking the 16th anniversary of the founding of the Gabonese Democratic Party.

Joint Communique Issued

AB141300 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Communique issued at the end of Guinean President Sekou Toure's friendly and working visit to Libreville on 13 March]

[Excerpts] At the invitation of His Excellency El-Hadj Omar Bongo, president of the Republic of Gabon, and his wife, His Excellency Ahmed Sekou Toure, president of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea, and his wife paid a friendly and working visit to the Republic of Gabon from 11 to 13 March on the occasion of the celebration of the 16th anniversary of the founding of the Gabonese Democratic Party [PDG].

The privileged nature of the relations existing between the brotherly peoples of Gabon and Guinea, who are bound by the same ideals as well as by the very strong bonds of friendship between their two heads of state, called for the organization of a spontaneous and particularly warm and enthusiastic welcome for President Sekou Toure and his wife as well as the delegation accompanying them.

On his arrival in Libreville, the Guinean head of state expressed to His Excellency El-Hadj Omar Bongo, to his people, as well as to the PDG his sincere thanks for the help they gave him following the disaster that plunged his country into mourning. For his part, the Gabonese head of state paid glowing tribute to the Guinean president for the remarkable results achieved in Guinea in the task of development.

During his stay in Libreville, President Ahmed Sekou Toure and President Omar Bongo held private discussions followed by a working session attended by the members of the two delegations. The two parties thoroughly examined the various areas of bilateral cooperation between Gabon and Guinea, major African political problems, as well as international issues. Following this session, the two heads of state expressed satisfaction about the dynamic and effective cooperation existing between Gabon and Guinea and decided to strengthen it by extending it to cover other fields. To this end and after a detailed analysis of steps aimed at broadening the cooperation between both countries, the two heads of state called on the Gabonese and Guinean Governments to find new and appropriate ways and means of defining and carrying out concerted actions in the field of development. They signed a general cooperation agreement as well as an agreement setting up a joint commission for cooperation.

Concerning the African political situation, the two heads of state notably discussed the crisis within the OAU and the situation prevailing in southern Africa. Concerning the crisis facing the

OAU, they expressed concern over the factors that have led to the disruption of the normal functioning of the OAU for about 2 years now. They called for African wisdom so that the OAU may recover its usual cohesion.

Concerning the international situation in general, the two heads of state expressed the hope that the international community will achieve a just solution to conflicts among states on the basis of the principle of the settlement of differences through negotiations, of noninterference in other states' internal affairs and respect for their territorial integrity, and of the right of all peoples to freely dispose of themselves in the strict respect of the pertinent resolutions of the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and the ICO.

The two heads of state stressed their governments' conviction that a just and lasting peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without Israel's recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people led by their sole and legitimate representative, the PLO, under the leadership of chairman Yasir 'Arafat, as well as the evacuation by Israel of all the territories it has been occupying since 1967. They expressed their conviction that the conquest of world peace and security demands the cessation of the frantic arms race and the establishment of a more equitable and just international economic order on which depends the harmonious development of the Third World countries.

At the end of his visit, his excellency the president of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea expressed his deep satisfaction concerning the results achieved during his discussions with the Gabonese head of state — results that will help strengthen the bonds of brotherly friendship and fruitful cooperation existing between Gabon and Guinea.

In the name of his wife and the Guinean delegation, as well as on his own behalf, His Excellency President Ahmed Sekou Toure expressed his warmest gratitude to His Excellency President Omar Bongo, his wife, the Gabonese people and their party — the PDC — for the enthusiastic and brotherly reception accorded them throughout their stay in Gabon.

Issued in Libreville on 13 March 1984.

ZAIRE

Portugal's Eanes, Gama Arrive for 3-Day Visit

AB132020 Paris AFP in English 1821 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Kinshasa, March 13 (AFP) — The Portuguese head of state, General Antonio Ramalho Eanes, arrived here today for a three-day official visit to Zaire. The visit is in return for a visit to Portugal in December by the Zairean president, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, after which the two governments signed three economic and technical, cultural and trade accords. Accompanying General Eanes on the Zaire visit is Portuguese Foreign Minister Jaime Gama.

The Portuguese expatriate community in Zaire, numbering about 10,000, is the second largest in the country after the Belgian community. It operates mainly in small- and medium-size industries and in cattle trading.

Eanes Speaks at Banquet

LD140019 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] In Kinshasa this evening, President Ramalho Eanes advocated the adoption of a new model of relations between Europe and Africa, two continents which he said are linked so much by history.

Speaking at a banquet given in his honor by President Mobutu Sese Seko, Eanes said such a new model would enable the two continents to face the world crisis with success. In his dinner speech, the Portuguese president hailed the pragmatic spirit of the parties in the ongoing process of talks intended to eliminate the tension which has shaken southern Africa.

Referring to relations between Portugal and Zaire, he said these could represent a significant step toward a European-African dialogue, renewed and projected for the future.

Meanwhile, diplomatic sources in the Zairean capital indicated today that the country's authorities are about to return to their former Portuguese owners the properties nationalized early in the 1970's. The decision seemed imminent but the matter would first be discussed, the sources said, in detail — particularly the political implications — at tomorrow's official talks between Presidents Eanes and Mobutu.

ECOWAS Customs Seminar Opens in Banjul 12 Mar

AB131320 Dakar PANA in English 1148 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Banjul, 13 March (GINS/PANA) — A five day customs (?documentation seminar) of ECOWAS member states has opened in Banjul yesterday.

The seminar organised jointly by ECOWAS and the Gambia Government is designed to explain the use of the ECOWAS nomenclature and declaration forms to government officials as well as the trading community in the Gambia. According to a senior government official, the seminar would also provide what he described as an information background to deal competently with any problem likely to arise in the procedures of implementing the scheme.

Participants were told that certain preparatory and collaborative measures such as this seminar need to be taken to provide a firm substructure leading to the establishment of this common market.

GHANA

TASS Announces New Soviet Ambassador 13 Mar

AB132055 Paris AFP in French 1546 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow, 13 Mar (AFP) — Sixty-one-year-old Vyacheslav Semenov has been appointed USSR ambassador to Ghana, TASS announced on Tuesday. Mr Semenov, who began his diplomatic career in 1948, was first secretary in Bern from 1961 to 1965, consul in Abidjan from 1967 to 1969 and in Conakry from 1969 to 1972. After serving in Moscow at the Southern Africa Department, he was appointed ambassador to Guinea-Bissau and the Cape Verde Islands from 1975 to 1980. Since then he has been serving as deputy head of the Second African Department at the ministry.

TASS did not indicate where the current ambassador, Anatoliy Ivantsov, who has been at his post since September 1979, has been redeployed.

Departing Envoy Lauds Ties

AB140940 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The Soviet ambassador to Ghana, Anatoliy Ivantsov, has left Accra for home after a 4-year duty tour. Before his departure, he said there is an urgent need for stability, peace and cooperation from all Ghanaians to help the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] carry on with its economic programs to their logical end. In this regard there should be no exaggeration about the present economic situation in the country, since the causes are attributable to mismanagement by previous governments and not the PNDC. Mr Ivantsov said he is optimistic that under the PNDC Ghanaians will have a new lease on life. He said the measures so far adopted by the PNDC are a testimony of its desire to improve upon the lot of the people in the industrial and agricultural sectors.

On Soviet-Ghana relations, Mr Ivantsov stated that there has been a steady improvement since the launching of the 31 December revolution. He commended Ghana's nonaligned policy and its cordial relations with all countries irrespective of their ideological belief.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Saude Maria Dismissed From Post of Vice President

PA141232 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1020 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Lisbon, 14 Mar — Guinean President Joao Bernardo Vieira has dismissed Victor Saude Maria from his post as vice president of the Council of the Revolution and of the National Security Council of Guinea-Bissau.

Guinea-Bissau's national radio reported this yesterday evening, noting that the president had "grave reasons" for having made this decision. Last Saturday, Saude Maria was dismissed from his post as prime minister of the Council of the Revolution.

Saude Maria will be replaced in the Council by Colonel Paulo Correia, a member of the Politburo of the country's only party — the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde — and the rural development minister, who belongs to the Balanta ethnic group, the country's largest.

The changes that have been made in the past few days in the Guinea-Bissau leadership have been seen as the most important political change in the country since Vieira overthrew former head of state Luis Cabral on 14 November 1984 [year as received].

The break between Vieira and Saude Maria — Vieira's righthand man and number two in Guinea-Bissau — has taken place amid a certain amount of unrest among Balanta politicians and military men who believe that they are not being represented properly.

Last Monday, Vieira criticized these remnants of racism and tribalism. Saude Maria's successor, however, is a prominent representative of the Balanta tribe.

IVORY COAST

Talks Held With Ghana on Maintaining Cocoa Prices

AB131120 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 0745 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The defense of our interests can only be achieved through consultations, and Ivory Coast and Ghana have given the example by combining their efforts to fight against the fall of the price of cocoa. It is within this framework that the minister of agriculture, water, and forest resources, Denis Bra Kanon, recently paid a visit to Ghana where he held a working session with the Ghanaian authorities. These consultations respond not only to the wishes of the Ivorian and Ghanaian farmers, but also to those of our two heads of state. We still remember the visit of President Jerry Rawlings to Yamoussoukro late last year which was aimed

at establishing true cooperation that will ensure the protection of our common interests. It is therefore not surprising that this policy is being pursued.

NIGERIA

Morocco Urged To Exercise Restraint on W. Sahara

AB131955 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Nigeria has urged Morocco to exercise restraint in the Western Saharan issue to make the next OAU summit a success. The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, made the plea today when he received a message from King Hassan of Morocco. General Buhari appealed to the country not to allow the problem of the territory to weaken the OAU.

He thanked the special envoy, who is the Moroccan minister of social affairs, Mr Abbas el Fassi, for explaining the Moroccan position on the Western Saharan issue. The envoy said Morocco looked to Nigeria for an objective support towards solving the Western Saharan problem.

Gambari on Lack of 'Progressive' Foreign Policy

AB131840 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, says that Nigeria has not been able to operate a progressive foreign policy because of lack of correlation between foreign policy and a more progressive and dynamic internal policy.

Dr Gambari, who was speaking on a Voice of Nigeria program, said that there should be a correlation between changes at home and radical pursuit of realistic objectives abroad. He stated that foreign policy formulation was a big challenge to both the government and people of Nigeria. Dr Gambari said that the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs should be granted autonomous status to enable it to undertake research and publication into sound foreign policy for the country. He said that what the country needed most now was a dynamic and realistic foreign policy to enable it to achieve its set objectives.

In answer to a question, Dr Gambari stated that the Federal Military Government [FMG] would continue to give the necessary assistance to SWAPO in the struggle against the apartheid regime in South Africa. He said that Nigeria strongly opposed the endorsement of the draft resolution by the South African regime and some frontline states in the last OAU ministerial conference.

On Western Sahara, Dr Gambari said that Nigeria cannot compromise on the right of self-determination because she was committed to the liberation of African countries from colonialism. He stated that the FMG's stand on all African issues was aimed at returning Nigeria to the central stage of diplomatic activity.

On Chad, the minister noted that Nigeria was at the moment trying to get all the parties involved in the conflict to agree on the basic principles towards solving the problem. According to him the principal task of solving the Chadian problem lies in the cooperation of its nationals, withdrawal of all foreign troops, and a political process of national reconciliation.

Buhari Warns Religious Fanaticism Not Tolerated

AB131850 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, has again warned that his administration will not tolerate any form of religious fanaticism. The government will also not brook any acts that undermine personal security, unity, and corporated business of the country through religious chauvinism.

In a message to the episcopal conference of Catholic bishops of Nigeria which began in Lagos today, Gen Buhari said that his government will act swiftly and decisively to nip in the bud any incidents of religious intolerance. Such incidents include the preaching of sermons capable of inciting the public to commit a breach of the peace anywhere in the country.

The head of state emphasized that Nigeria was a secular state where all shades of opinion and freedom of worship according to individual preferences and perceptions should be accommodated.

He referred to the theme of the conference, which is "Holy Year and Reconciliation," and declared: In Nigeria we look for reconciliation with one another, irrespective of our social, cultural, and religious diversities, so that we may have peace, progress, and national unity.

Gen Buhari reminded participants at the conference that as Catholic bishops they had a special role to play in fostering the objectives of peace, progress, and unity. This was because their position in the society has conferred on them the enviable responsibility of molding the opinion and behavior of the millions of adherents.

The conference was declared opened with the pontifical high mass said by the outgoing papal pro-nuncio in Nigeria, Arshibishop Carlo Curis, while Archbishop Olugbemi Okje preached the sermon. Thirty-two bishops from all over the country are attending the conference, which will last 5 days.

Steps Taken in Gongola To Curtail Religious Practices

AB131240 Lagos NAN in English 1145 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Yola, March 13 (NAN) — The Gongola military government yesterday in Yola ordered the closure of all illegal prayer houses and slaughter slabs in the state with immediate effect.

At the swearing-in ceremony of the new commissioner for finance, Mr Barau Adi, the state governor, Major General Muhammadu Jega, said that no religious preaching outside churches and mosques was authorised in the state until further notice.

Maj Gen Jega said that the movement of "Almajirai" (Koranic pupils) from one part of the state to the other was banned, while preachers from other states, if they came to Gongola to preach, must obtain written approval from their state governments and that of Gongola. "Providing accommodation to strangers, especially foreigners, must be reported to ward and village heads, who should also report to the security agencies in their areas," he said.

Maj Gen Jega also announced the ban on the use of abusive records, and cassettes, and their playing over loudspeakers,adding that anyone who violated these measures would face the military authorities.

Governor Jega said that although the military administration had guaranteed freedom of worship for all citizens, "this guarantee should not be misconstrued as licence for a few misguided elements to lead our people to destruction."

Committee To Investigate Riots
AB131350 Lagos NAN in English 1345 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Yola, March 13 (NAN) — The Gongola Government yesterday in Yola set up a 14-member administrative committee of enquiry to determine the causes of the religious disturbances in Jimeta-Yola and assess the loss of lives and extent of damage done to public and private property in the areas.

In a statement, the secretary to the government and head of service, Alhaji Suleman Abbo Jimeta, who is also the chairman of the committee, said that the committee had been mandated to determine whether any body or organization was behind the religious disturbances.

Alhaji Suleman said that the committee would recommend long- and short-term plans to rehabilitate persons displaced due to the disturbances and of checking their recurrences. The chairman said that the committee would co-opt the Hausa, Ibo and Yoruba community leaders in the burned new market, and representatives of market women and three ward heads to represent people whose properties were destroyed or lost during the disturbances. [paragraph as received]

The committee is expected to submit its report within three weeks.

Ogun Restricts Open-Air Sermons
AB131826 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The Ogun State Government has directed those wishing to engage in any form of open-air religious sermon to obtain a special permit from the police. The military governor, Colonel Oladipo Diya, gave the directive when he received a delegation of Shagamu community in the Remon local government area in his office. He said that though there was freedom of worship, the wave of religious fanaticism in some parts of the country had made the directive necessary.

Col Diya said that security agents have been directed to monitor the activities and meetings of all associations to identify those with political undertones.

Security Moves To End Abuse of Immigration Policy
AB131205 Lagos International Service in English 0930 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Nigeria has been very liberal in her immigration policy. Unfortunately, this policy has been grossly abused in recent years. The adoption by Nigeria of the ECOWAS protocol on the free movement of citizens of member states saw the influx of millions of illegal aliens into the country. At that material time, the ravaging drought in the Sahelian countries as well as the fratricidal war in the neighboring Chad added their dimensions to the population growth of Nigeria, thereby raising serious security questions. This liberal immigration policy and the economic boom of the past years also induced further infiltration of illegal immigrants through the extensive but inadequately policed borders. The consequences of unrestrained immigration of illegal aliens, most of whom had no skills to sell, depressed the economy of Nigeria disastrously. Most of these aliens roamed the streets begging for alms, while other vagrants resorted to antisocial activities from petty thieving to armed robbery, and the teenage girls among them were not [as heard] collaborating with men of the underworld through immoral living. The growing weight of social disorder and depression caused by unrestrained influx of these aliens compelled the then civilian administration to order out all immigrants who had no resident or work permit.

This followed the climax of a religious riot caused by one Mohamed Marwa, alias Maitatsine, a non-Nigerian, in which many lives were lost in Kano in 1980. The expulsion of illegal immigrants seemed to have a short-term effect, as many of the expelled aliens, especially those of the ECOWAS states and the belligerent Chad, have found their way back into the country. As a result of this, Nigeria is witnessing in recent times increases in crime and other antisocial activities.

Recently, the fanatical Maitatsine religious riots and killings reminiscent of the Kano massacres of 1980 and the Kaduna and Bulunkutu incidents of the same group — mainly of foreign origin — repeated themselves in Yola, the capital of Nigeria's Gongola State, in which more than 200 people died. This latest development calls for a new national security policy in the country. It is noteworthy that in this direction, the Ministry of Internal Affairs has braced up to deal with the situation. To contain similar assaults on the nation and its moral reputation, the Nigerian Government is embarking on a new national border and internal security policy which will involve both the federal and state governments. This new policy is timely in view of the military government's concern for the maintenance of law and order in the country. This policy aims principally at controlling the influx of illegal aliens who pose a serious threat to national security. The measure will also help to combat smuggling of essential commodities out of the country [words indistinct]. It is also designed to check the activities of big-time smugglers who deal in manufactured goods without paying duties, thus

defrauding the government of the much-needed capital to rejuvenate the economy. The smuggling which goes on unabated due to ineffective security checks occasioned by the vastness of Nigeria's international boundaries has an adverse effect on the home industries, which are fast losing their protective rights and, consequently, a drop in their gross sales and profits. [sentence as heard]

At this point in time when the military government is showing the resolve to cleanse this society of social vices, the directive of the Internal Affairs Ministry to immigration and security officers to round up illegal aliens and deport them to their respective countries of origin could not have come at a more opportune moment. For one thing, Nigerian detractors at home and abroad are leaving nothing to chance to see that the new military government stumbles in its rescue mission. This is the more reason why the government is tightening its security measures to see that Nigerian fugitives, whose stand against their native land has banished them to foreign lands, will never have the opportunity to constitute their promised Jihad nor the chance to use religious or other fanatics, like the notorious Maitatsine group, to undermine the security and economic stability of Nigeria.

Prices of Essential Goods Continue Steep Rise

AB131314 Paris AFP in English 0925 GMT 13 Mar 84

[By Paul (Nwafor) Ejime]

[Text] Lagos, March 13 (AFP) — Prices of essential goods have continued to rise steeply in Nigeria in spite of government efforts to effect reductions, a market survey here has shown.

The market survey showed that traders now sell most of their wares under the counter in their bid to make more profit by charging than the official price [sentence as received]. An example is rice, a Nigerian staple whose prices now range between 100 naira (some 130 dollars) and 200 naira (about 260 dollars) above an official price of 40 naira (52 dollars) per bag of 50 kilos (110 pounds), representing a 150 to 300 percent increase.

Not even a state-by-state allocation of this commodity, several hundred bags of which are imported monthly from Thailand and the United States, has changed the situation.

Sellers usually pretend to have empty stalls, and will only sell to selected buyers. A press report yesterday said they use sign language to bargain, and in big deals go through middlemen. "We are deceiving ourselves", one trader was quoted as saying, adding, "how does any government expect me to sell for 35 naira (45 dollars) a bag of rice I bought from borders at 160 naira (some 208 dollars)".

Other commodities whose prices have trebled in the last month include beans, which now sell at 40 naira (52 dollars) per tin, groundnut oil — up from 48 naira (62 dollars) to 120 naira (156 dollars) per 18-litre (32-pint) tin — and vegetable oil, which has leaped from about 20 naira to 70 per tin. Milk which cost 25 naira (32 dollars) per carton of 96 tins in early January now sells for 50 naira (about 65 dollars).

Prices of detergents have also risen to thrice their previous levels within the same period, with one small-sized pack selling for 2 naira (2.7 dollars) against the official price of 60 kobo (below one dollar).

These prices only concern Lagos, and are in general even higher in the provinces, because transport costs and other incidental distribution overheads are often passed on to the consumers.

Following acute shortages and exorbitant prices for the few items available, a situation blamed largely on hoarding, the ousted civilian administration had set up a presidential task force on essential goods, but this proved ineffective even before the military takeover of last December 31.

At the beginning of the military regime soldiers went into the markets to assist in forcing down prices.

A number of warehouses where items were hoarded were also forced open and their contents sold off to a delighted public. However, stocks were soon exhausted and difficult to replenish due to foreign exchange and other import constraints. The Supreme Military Council (SMC) has since withdrawn the soldiers from the markets, too.

A number of state governors have issued individual price lists — even though a uniform national guideline might be preferable — and sporadic sales are continuing from isolated warehouses. But generally, essential goods have been priced out of the reach of the ordinary citizen. Some traders also argue that any attempt at official price control is unlikely to succeed, as the government has not direct influence over the production of most of the goods concerned.

TOGO

France's Nucci Arrives in Lome, Comments on Ties

AB131945 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Christian Nucci, the French minister of cooperation and development, who arrived in Lome yesterday afternoon for a visit to Togo, was yesterday evening the guest at a dinner party tendered in his honor by Amani Kuma Akayiko-Ahiatsyo, member of the Political Bureau and Togolese minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

In a short talk upon his arrival yesterday at the VIP section of the Tokoin Airport, Christian Nucci told our reporters that his visit to Togo was for a simple reason: It is within the framework of the friendship and the common goals of the relations between France and Togo. Mr Nucci recalled that he came to Togo 10 months ago, and that at that time he and the Togolese minister of foreign affairs and cooperation jointly presided over the French-Togolese joint commission. Thus, his visit to Togo now is to learn about the projects so far implemented. The French minister of cooperation and development also stated that he has come to learn about the perspectives for 1984, and at the same

time, to reaffirm the French Government's support for Togo's efforts, under the leadership of President Eyadema, to overcome this critical stage in our history. Christian Nucci pointed out that it is under such circumstances that friendship must be demonstrated and this is the reason for his visit to Togo today.

UPPER VOLTA

SNEAHV Leaders Tried To 'Destabilize' Country

AB131445 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Certain members of the National Executive of the Upper Voltan National Union of African Teachers [SNEAHV] have been arrested for their subversive political activities. In fact, a lot of evidence has been accumulated during the time these persons were in contact with enemies of the revolution with the aim of destabilizing the present regime. Let us listen to Comrade Jean-Baptiste Lingani, commander in chief of the High Command of the National Armed Forces:

[Begin Lingani recording] Revolutionary people of Upper Volta, for some time now, some counterrevolutionaries, through a clever combination of trade union activities and clandestine and distantly-controlled subversive operations, have been trying to create conditions favorable for destabilizing the revolution for their imperialist allies. These wretched fellows, whom you have already totally condemned several times, are directed and controlled at a distance by stateless and treacherous people in imperialist pay and who are well known for their reactionary and unpopular practices. That is why we are already convinced that sincere patriots, especially those of the SNEAHV, will not hesitate to express their indignation when they learn that Jean Bila and Sib Joachim as well as (Kindo Sarma) Ismael were allowing themselves to be used by Joseph Ki Zerbo, Frederick Guirma, Michel Kafando, and Kangnie Jean-Claude. The contents of SNEAHV dispatches, the feverish agitations of the Upper Volta Progressive Front [FPV] handymen these last few weeks designed to sow doubt, confusion, panic, and the multiplication of their meetings, which were sometimes clandestine — all this was done in preparing to destabilize the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and its grassroot militants and to take away the support of patriotic and sincere teachers and parents of pupils. In their monopolist way of seeing things, these gentlemen of the FPV have always considered teachers their personal belongings and the SNEAHV their own domain, which up to now they have been controlling through the blackmail of examinations and professional competitive examinations, punitive transfers, and all sorts of pressure. It is therefore not surprising that after receiving instructions from their black and white masters, they decided to go on the offensive. Their plan of aggression against the Upper Voltan people, a plan proposed and masterminded by certain foreign circles — especially French, Belgian, and Israeli — which was postponed three times, did not fail to attract the support of Ki Zerbo, Frederick Guirma, and Michel Kafando, despite its insane and incredible conception. More than this stupid plan, it was the large sums of money that entered their local lackeys like Jean Bila, Sib Joachim, and (Kindo Sarma) Ismael. These people did not have any problems establishing their sordid plan with the help of certain officers acting through their spouses.

Just like at the end of 1980, the leadership of the SNEAHV, on orders of the FPV, used ("tricore") patriots as cannon fodder, while they themselves pocketed huge sums of money coming to from around our country. Using also the cover of some members of the clergy, they somehow succeeded sometimes in passing on their message. But thanks to the vigilance of our mobilized people, thanks to the omnipresence of determined Revolutionary Defense Committees [CDR], and thanks to our security forces which are in most remote places, we have been kept informed up to now of the details of bank accounts, the addresses of confusing chancelleries, the dates and places of landings and the identities of certain financial backers of the assassination of our revolutionary people. [as heard]

We have never wanted to publish this information, preferring to act subtly and effectively. We will continue to withold this information from the Upper Voltan people for the following two reasons:

1. To protect sympathizing patriots of all nationalities who are every day doing everything for the survival and the triumph of our revolution. They are people who love justice, dignity, freedom, peace, and progress.

2. Not to oppose our people to other peoples [words indistinct]. This is why, even when the international press lifted part of the opaque veil that seemed to cover the activities of our opponents, we kept very calm. Today, in order to put an end to the dishonest ("brainwashing) of teachers by a trade union leadership which has already been denounced and condemned in Upper Volta as antirevolutionary, we must say that people like Jean Bila, Sib Joachim, and (Kindo Sarma) Ismael — all SNEAHV ("leaders) — have plotted against state security. The proof has long been established that they conspired with external powers with a view to installing a regime to be led by them and their accomplices. They have already shared government posts among themselves and affirmed their fidelity to their foreign masters if they succeed.

Now that they have been rendered powerless, they may try to stir up many uninformed Upper Voltan teachers to support their cause. We want to recall that the CNR has never opposed and will never oppose labor freedom, for it is for the welfare of workers who form an integral part of our revolutionary people. The CNR even demonstrated a great patience toward the reactionary SNEAHV leadership which, upon the advent of the revolution, criticized and condemned us and then called on the SNEAHV to dissociate itself from our action. Even when our militants were running out of patience, we tried to avoid an escalation. Encouraged by the refusal of the CNR to radicalize its warnings, the SNEAHV leadership continued to extend its criminal militancy and to urge its accomplices and supporters to carry out an invasion of our country through very well paid mercenaries. Henceforth, the CNR will strike mercilessly all those who embark upon or prepare any attack against our people and their revolution. The CNR is more than determined to pursue (terrorists) to their last positions no matter what cover under which they may hide trade unionism or confessional and

diplomatic activities or whatever. On the other hand, the CNR reaffirms its support for all sincere militants, democratic patriots, trade unions, professional bodies, and sociocultural organizations. It also reaffirms its respect for international agreements as long as they are not used as a cover for subversive activities against our country. Therefore, SNEAVH militants, it is your duty to maintain your mass organization, to strengthen it, and to develop it to serve Upper Volta's education and therefore the Upper Volta people. This implies that you must expel the manipulated elements and the manipulators in the pay of imperialism and those acting upon the orders of well-known traitors and enemies of the country.

By reassuring the SNEAVH of its guaranteed rights, the CNR is anxious to state that without a clear leadership closely attached to the people, a mass organization is bound to wander about at the mercy of foreign interests if these interests are not squarely opposed to those of the organization. The CNR calls for the revolutionary vigilance of the CDR's, the defense and security forces, the soldiers and the paramilitary personnel, the sincere patriots within the mass organizations and sincere patriots within the trade unions. The CNR calls for the general mobilization and the fierce determination of the Upper Volta people to unmask, denounce, and fight the known and unknown enemies of the people and of their popular and democratic revolution. The CNR calls for the people's vigilance in order to disorganize and energetically repulse any subversive internal or external maneuver and to teach a good lesson to imperialism and its local puppets, these ruthless persons and traitors, wherever they may come from. The fatherland or death, we will win! [end recording]

Background to TU Arrests

AB1310/53 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
0030 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Ouattarma Lamien commentary]

[Text] Did the Ministry of National Defense call in certain members of the SNEAHV for interrogation for their trade union activities, or was it because the Revolutionary Defense Committees [CDR] called for their dismissal from the civil service and their arrest? Reading from the statement of Comrade Lingani and the nature of measures taken, the answer is no. In fact, the government refrained from attacking the entire leadership of the SNEAHV and also abstained from holding them responsible for the violent attacks which have been made against the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] since 7 August 1983. The CNR has also refused to dismiss members of the SNEAHV as demanded by many CDR's. Only two elements of the National Executive of the SNEAHV were called in for interrogation, along with a third who is on the run. They were called in for interrogation because they were involved in the drawing up and in the execution of a destabilization plan. In this connection, the malicious intentions they entertained were only a form of political manipulation.

The authorities have evidence of this operation, whose final phase was to go into execution toward the end of this month, and they promise to completely inform the people so that there will not be the slightest doubt about the planned plot that even those who are against the Upper Volta experience cannot fail to see.

The history of our country shows that trade unionism has served as a Trojan horse to various political forces. That a political movement or a front of a political force should today try to manipulate the SNEAHV should not surprise anybody. What is important, no doubt, is to remain vigilant in order to be able to spot the manipulators, to isolate their deeds and to supply proof for the people to decide. With so much attention focused on the leadership of the SNEAHV these past few weeks, one wondered what political games the SNEAHV was playing. After the revelations made by the minister of defense and the interrogations of certain members of the SNEAHV, it was clear that it is neither the SNEAHV nor even the entire leadership that was involved in the political-adversary activities against the CNR and against the Upper Volta revolution.

It is therefore necessary that everything should be made clear in this affair, which is not directed against trade unionists in the exercise of their rights but against people who are involved in plots. It is only by making everything quite clear that we will be able to prevent trade unionism from becoming once again a Trojan horse for reactionary political forces.

Ivorian Education Minister Meets Sankara, Comments

AB1321/45 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
2000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The Ivorian minister of national education and scientific research, Balla Keita, was received in audience this afternoon by Comrade Thomas Sankara, to whom he delivered a message from Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. Mr Keita was introduced by Comrade Issa Tiendrebeogo, minister of higher education and scientific research. After the audience, the Ivorian minister told reporters the aim of that message and talked about relations between the Ivory Coast and Upper Volta:

[Begin recording] [Keita] A message of fraternal greetings has been addressed to the Upper Volta viewers [as heard] from the Ivorian people. As you know, our two countries are complementary, and our two peoples are brothers and friends. As the current chairman of the Board of Governors of the African and Malagasy Council on Higher Education, CAMES, it was quite natural for me to come here within the framework of the activities of the CAMES, to take the opportunity to meet our brother, President Sankara, whose elder brother is the president of the Republic of Ivory Coast. And as a member of the political and steering committee of the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast of the African Democratic Rally [PDCI-RDA], it was also normal in coming from a friendly country that I should hold discussions with political authorities of this country. It was, therefore, a friendly visit that I paid to President Sankara.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, concerning relations between the Ivory Coast and Upper Volta, there are some Upper Voltans in the Ivory Coast who are trying to organize subversive activities against the Upper Voltan revolution. Yet during the ceremony of the presentation of credentials by our ambassador to the Ivory Coast, President Houphouet-Boigny said he has a lot

of admiration for the Upper Voltan president. Is the Ivory Coast ready to support Upper Volta and its revolution?

[Keita] You know, each people chooses its own path for development. The Ivory Coast has chosen one path for its development; Upper Volta has chosen its own. It is therefore quite natural that we should mutually respect each other's choice. The Ivory Coast does not interfere in the internal affairs of Upper Volta and doesnot want anybody to interfere in its internal affairs. It will therefore support the Upper Voltan authorities [words indistinct] and it will never allow its territory to be used for organizing subversive activities to overthrow the regime of a friendly country. [end recording]

ANGOLA

FAPLA: 100 'Bandits' Killed; UNITA Poisoning Public

MB140939 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] A total of 100 more bandits of the UNITA puppet group were killed by the Angolan Armed Forces in operations carried out by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] recently in the region of (Catabela) in Bie Province.

In the operations, other bandits were wounded and captured while attempting to flee in the bush after clashes with the Angolan Armed Forces. As a result of heavy blows which FAPLA is dealing to the puppet gang, the bandits are using new forms to murder members of the public. In Moxico Province UNITA criminals distributed a toxic product resembling cooking oil as food. Once it is swallowed, the substance causes death.

According to what ANGOP has been able to learn, there have been four deaths from the substance. This fact will alert members of the public to this kind of gifts. It will also enable them to identify and seize the product, as well as arrest the criminals distributing it.

This event reveals that the UNITA gangs are in total despair and are resorting to any means at their disposal to commit the most diverse crimes against defenseless people.

Soviet, Cuban Military Aid to Country Detailed

PM130903 Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese 3 Mar 84 pp 24-26 (supplement)

[Augusto de Carvalho Angola dispatch: "Angola: The Rise of the Young Officers"]

[Excerpt] "The South Africans were fully aware, thanks to their espionage services, that we would soon be in a position to challenge their domination of the airspace, where they had previously been lords and masters," we were told in Luanda by a high-ranking military official, who added: "Wherever we went they strafed us mercilessly from above and we were unable to go beyond air defense; but soon the situation will change. Fighter planes and properly trained pilots are on their way. Furthermore, only two or three other African countries will have radar and antiaircraft missiles coverage as good as ours. For instance, soon 250 officers — all Angolans — will be arriving to reinforce Luanda's air defense."

A new class is emerging in Angola — the military class, young officers trained abroad, especially in the Soviet Union and Cuba. Their average age is about 26, but they already occupy important positions in the politicomilitary apparatus.

"In with the new" was a watchword that proved difficult to introduce, perhaps out of respect for and gratitude to the former guerrillas of the anticolonial war. But it now seems indispensable, since technical and scientific training superior to that of the old fighters is needed to deal with the South African offensive. Piloting a MIG or an MI-25 helicopter — an infernal machine with enough firepower to destroy an army — are "tasks" incompatible with sentimentality. But the war that South Africa has waged on Angola, particularly since 1981, modern in the equipment used and classic in its tactics, has required that this increased technical training have a cultural background. This has led to a drain from universities and recently schools of men who have travelled in large numbers to the Soviet Union and Cuba or who receive training in Angola from specialists of those two countries. In the USSR alone there are at present 8,000 officers undergoing training, which is why it is difficult to find any anti-Soviet or anti-Cuban feelings among the military personnel, though such feelings are not unusual among civilians in Angola.

Indeed, it was the Soviets who granted Angola resolute military and technical support when it was invaded by South Africa, while the Cubans acted as rearguard of the MPLA troops. The latter, stationed at strategic points, sometimes mixed with the front-line troops, though officials with whom we spoke have denied it.

Modern and sophisticated materiel such as the MIG-21 and now the MIG-23 and the famous MI-25 helicopter or Strela-class antiaircraft missiles have been supplied by the USSR with no strings attached and accompanied by their respective instructors. It can therefore be assumed that without this aid perhaps South Africa would fairly calmly and arrogantly have brought its tanks into Angola, backed by an air force and weapons easily purchased on the Western market, Western countries having been its main suppliers in the war on Angola.

"This aid became clearer and more decisive under Andropov," we were told by one military leader. "Andropov," he added, "decided to supply Angola with all military materiel without return concessions. 'There is no fooling with war,' he said. 'Either you win or you lose.' Under Andropov, the materiel supplied to Angola came to be divided into two categories: strictly military materiel, and the rest. This related to payment. Strictly military materiel is supplied to us free of contract, so that we can pay for it some day, as and when we can, if we can. There are no conditions of payment. The rest is subject to normal commercial regulations. However, Andropov extended the term 'strictly military' to include everything in any way related to defense. So troop-carrying trucks came to be classed in the category of 'strictly military.'"

Our interlocutor also cited Cuban aid: "In view of the escalation of the war, they too refused to take any money and following the December attack also relinquished the salaries we were paying them. So we only provided them with food and 150 kuanzas for cigarettes" (about enough for three packs — *EXPRESSO* editor's note).

Correction to Foreign Ministry Statement on Namibia

Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese at 1900 GMT on 13 March rebroadcasts the report entitled "Foreign Ministry: Namibia Talks Require UN Framework" that was published in the Angola subsection of the Southern Africa section of the 13 March Middle East & Africa *DAILY REPORT*, page U 1, permitting the following fills:

Last paragraph, line three should read...place within that single framework and...(providing indistinct word)

Last line should read...the Pretoria regime. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs believes that the objectives outlined by the South African Government not only contradict the spirit of the compromises agreed upon in Lusaka, but are also likely to jeopardize the process that has been launched, thus putting at stake the honest commitment and credibility of the Pretoria regime. Regarding the possible participation of the UNITA puppets in such a meeting, the (?declaration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) reiterates that the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee and the Government of the People's Republic of Angola categorically reject maintaining any dialogue or negotiations with a criminal gang of Angolan traitors who are today in the service of the Pretoria regime. The Pretoria regime vainly intends to legitimize that gang as a participant in the stated conference on Namibia. (providing indistinct passage)

LESOTHO

Foreign Minister Sekhonyana Discusses Ties With RSA

MB131728 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, The Honorable E.R. Sekhonyana, says that Lesotho will be ready to establish diplomatic relations with South Africa as soon as it is assured that its ambassador will not be subjected to racial prejudice. Addressing the National Assembly this afternoon, Mr Sekhonyana said that Lesotho's relations with other countries are dictated by the interests of the Basotho. He, however, pointed out, however [as heard], that Lesotho has common interests with South Africa in several spheres of life and this necessitates cooperation between the two countries. He said that Lesotho and South Africa cooperate in the fields of trade, agriculture, health, and security. Apart from that, there are consultative groups between the two countries that hold regular discussions in matters of common interest. Mr Sekhonyana also called on South Africa to remove barriers that prevented her from becoming a member of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference in its own interest.

Speaking on international relations, the minister of foreign affairs hailed reports that the Vatican may soon open an embassy in Beijing. He said that this shows the correctness of Lesotho's decision to establish relations with the PRC. The country constitutes a quarter of the world's population.

Sabotage by Lesotho Liberation Army Chronicled

MB131700 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 13 Mar 84

[From the "Spotlight on Southern Africa" Program: "Lesotho and the Lesotho Liberation Army" — quotation marks denote recorded passages]

[Text] In a statement to parliament in April last year, Lesotho Prime Minister Leabua Jonathan had this to say: "We must realize that what we are now faced with is war with South Africa. Our relations with South Africa have continued to deteriorate. For reasons that are still unclear to us we have progressively been subjected to a war of words comprising threats and intimidation from various authorities in South Africa, including from her Bantustan lackeys. The Basotho nation must now face the onslaught against our country, prompted by the fact that we have done nothing wrong, except to refuse to bow to apartheid blackmail."

And in October, Prime Minister Jonathan spelled out the aims of the campaign against Lesotho. "We are therefore left with one conclusion: that South Africa wants Lesotho as another bantustan, and the inception of a government which is a mere appendage of Pretoria."

South Africa has used economic blackmail and direct military attacks, such as the Maseru massacre of December 1982, in pursuit of these aims. But Pretoria has also resorted to the use of armed bandits, the self-styled Lesotho Liberation Army [LLA], which operates out of South Africa. Dr Jonathan had this to say: "The LLA is an anonym of a section of the South Africa army, operating in the same way as the so-called MNR in Mozambique and UNITA in Angola."

The following is a list of terrorist and sabotage attacks against Lesotho last year:

January: Water storage tanks outside Maseru damaged by explosions during a Southern African Development Coordination Conference meeting.

February: Maseru reservoir damaged by five bombs; large cache of arms and explosives found; Caltex fuel depot in Maseru destroyed; ammunition cache found.

March: Attempted sabotage of electrical installations in Maseru; machine gun and mortar attack on military barracks in the south; armed men infiltrate in the northwest; grenade attack on Roman Catholic mission in Leribe district; incendiary bombs thrown into the homes of government supporters in Teyateyanengi; two insurgents shot dead at Hendrik's Drift.

April: Mortar and rocket attack on military barracks at Ox Bow; police station at Dilli Dilli attacked; two rural stores and robbed.

June: More than 100 armed men attack Tau village and army post at Mohales Hoek; military post at Qachas Nek fired on from South Africa; two buses bombed; police station at Stebana Morena attacked; 30 bandits apprehended on a mission to assassinate Leabua Jonathan.

July: Bomb attack on house in Makungwane.

August: Car bomb explodes in Maseru, shortly after Dr Jonathan's car passes; a member of the ruling party kidnapped and murdered; military base at Qachas Nek attacked.

September: Attacks on villages in Leribe and Maseru districts; arms cache found in Mohales Hoek District; two public buildings in Maseru extensively damaged in explosions; assassination attempt on a junior government minister; passenger bus detonates a land mine; post office in Butha Buthe District attacked.

October: Arms cache found near Maseru.

November: Explosions in two supermarkets and outside a church in Maseru.

MALAWI

Banda: World Recession Mandates 'Austerity Budget'

MB140808 Blantyre Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] His excellency the life president, Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda, has warned that the government is going to introduce an austerity budget in the coming financial year because of circumstances beyond the country's control. The life president was speaking in Zomba today when he opened the budget session of parliament. In his address the life president made it very clear that because of adverse global economic conditions over which this country has no control, the forthcoming budget would provide for bare essentials only and nothing else.

The ngwazi went on to explain the background of our present economic situation. He said this has come about because of recession which had caught up with us some time ago, 1 or 2 years after it had hit the Western world. The life president also said that our economic difficulties have been compounded by transport problems which have affected our imports and exports, a thing, he said, we also can do nothing about.

The life president said the effects of inflation are now wearing down in the Western world, beginning with the United States, because of economic recovery with the coming back of industrial activities. But the ngwazi explained that just as inflation took some time to catch up with us after it hit the Western world, so will economic recovery take some time to reach us. The life president said since economic recovery has begun in the United States, on which Western Europe depends, the recovery will eventually spread to Western Europe and gradually to Britain. In spite of economic difficulties, his excellency the life president said, however, there is no question of starvation in the country. On this the life president reiterated his strong belief that as far as he was concerned, the budget session of parliament was secondary to the primary budget, which is the crop situation in the field. He then told the members of parliament that from what he saw during his crop inspection tour, which took him to various parts of the country, there is going to be a surplus crop during harvest this year.

The life president said this makes him happy, because from the sale of surplus crops, his people will earn money with which they can buy their needs, such as good clothes and building decent houses. He then declared that Malawi's biggest pride was that she is able to feed herself without asking for food from abroad like other countries do. He said the outside world gives us credit for this because, in spite of economic difficulties which are beyond our control, we are at least able to feed ourselves through hard work in the fields.

MOZAMBIQUE

Provincial Officials Hail RSA Nonaggression Pact

MB131555 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Lieutenant General Alberto Chipande, leader of Cabo Delgado Province, chaired a meeting in Pemba yesterday to explain the evolution of the peace talks between Mozambique and South Africa to provincial government officials.

At the meeting the senior party official stated that the signing of the nonaggression and good neighbor pact on 16 March on the banks of Incomati River, between Mozambique and South Africa, is in the context of the peace policy which has always been defined by the Frelimo Party and the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique. The provincial government officials in Cabo Delgado who attended the meeting hailed the peace efforts being made by the supreme leadership of our party and state, stressing that the current talks with South Africa constitute an important step in the fight against the armed bandits.

Rally Planned To Mark Nonaggression Pact Signing

MB131520 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1100 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] A mass rally is to be held in Maputo next Saturday to mark Friday's signing of a nonaggression accord between Mozambique and South Africa. The decision to hold the rally was taken at a meeting in Maputo attended by representatives of the Frelimo Party from all parts of the city. The meeting was chaired by the first secretary of the party in Maputo, Jorge Rebelo. He was told by the local party activists that there was a strong public feeling that a demonstration should be held to express mass support for the talks between Mozambique and South Africa. These talks have been a victory for Frelimo's policy of peace and have opened new prospects of peace and good neighborliness in the region. Friday's accord will be signed by President Samora Machel and South African Prime Minister P.W. Botha on the banks of the Incomati River, on the border between the two countries.

Nyerere, Machel Meet, Discuss Nonaggression Accord

MB132013 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Tanzania has expressed its full support for Mozambique's decision to sign a nonaggression pact with South Africa. Tanzanian Foreign Minister Salim Ahmad Salim told reporters at Maputo airport this evening that his government understands and supports solidly the position of Frelimo, and has total confidence in the integrity, honesty, and commitment of the Frelimo Government.

Mr Salim forms part of a Tanzanian delegation headed by President Julius Nyerere, which arrived in Maputo this afternoon for a brief visit, during which they had 3 hours of talks with the Political Bureau of the Frelimo Party headed by President Samora Machel. Mr Salim said President Samora and President Nyerere had held extensive discussions in Tanzania at the weekend on developments in Southern Africa, and the Central Committee of Tanzania's ruling party, Chama Cha Mapinduzi, had met later to analyze the situation. They had decided that it was logical for President Nyerere to visit Maputo. Mr Salim said the consolidation of the independence and stability of Mozambique was of primordial importance in the struggle of the people of Southern Africa for dignity and freedom. He said South Africa's commitment not to commit aggression against Mozambique was a position which the frontline states had always fought for. Tanzania, he said, fully understood the circumstances which had led Frelimo to decide to sign a nonagression accord with Pretoria.

The Tanzanian delegation left Maputo just over an hour ago.

NAMIBIA

Multiparty Conference Approves Botha Proposal

MB140839 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The multiparty conference on the future of South-West Africa/Namibia says it is prepared in principle to take part in peace talks with other interested parties in southern Africa. A statement issued by the party in Windhoek says participation will be by the multiparty conference as a group in its own right and not as part of another delegation.

The party was responding to a proposal by the South African foreign minister, Mr Roelof Botha, over the weekend that a regional peace conference should be held on the future of South-West Africa/Namibia. The idea was to get the internal parties in the territory — SWAPO, Angola, and UNITA — to take part. SWAPO has said it was willing to take part on condition that Angola is not discussed. Angola refuses to talk to UNITA. President Kenneth Kaunda has offered to act as a host to such a conference.

SOUTH AFRICA

Foreign Minister Reiterates Cubans Must Leave Angola

MB140733 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, says South Africa is committed to the United Nations plan for the independence of South-West Africa/Namibia.

In an interview published yesterday, he said South Africa's call for a regional conference on the territory was not an attempt to bypass the plan. He reiterated, however that the Cubans would have to pull out of Angola. He explained that he had merely suggested that if everyone wanted peace, then those shooting at each other should sit down and talk.

UN Leader Asks RSA To Clarify Resolution Stance

MB140742 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The United Nations secretary general, Dr Perez de Cuellar, has asked South Africa if it still accepts the key UN Security Council resolution on South-West Africa/Namibia, following its call for a regional conference on the territory.

A UN spokesman said the secretary general had seen the South African representative, Mr Kurt von Schirnding, who had undertaken to seek clarification from his government. The spokesman, Mr (Francois Guelliani), told reporters that Dr de Cuellar had been surprised by the reports that South Africa had proposed a conference that seemed to sidestep United Nations involvement in the South-West Africa/Namibian peace process.

Peace Conference Not Attempt To 'Circumvent' UN

MB140723 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Government spokesmen in Cape Town have rejected as false reports that South Africa is attempting to circumvent the United Nations by means of its proposal for a conference of all interested parties from South-West Africa and Angola. Our political correspondent reports that the spokesmen said that South Africa's only aim with the conference proposal was to obtain peace for the region. The spokesmen said that all that South Africa was doing was to take note of the realities of the situation.

South Africa had already concluded an agreement with Angola and that country was bound by its terms. Elements of UNITA, however, could cause problems in the area under the supervision of the joint South African-Angolan monitoring commission because UNITA had not been included in the agreement. South Africa was prepared, as the spokesmen put it, to take notice of SWAPO, but it was also time that notice should be taken of the other side.

Referring to reports that Cuba was now more willing to withdraw its troops from Angola, the spokesmen said it was still too early to attach any value to such statements because the basic problem still existed. Part of the problem was that Dr Jonas Savimbi of UNITA would gain control if the Cubans were to withdraw from Angola. The Cubans could therefore only be withdrawn from Angola if agreement was reached between the MPLA government and UNITA, and there was no sign of such an agreement at present.

Defense Chief Viljoen Cites Continued Readiness

MB131930 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The chief of the Defense Force, General Constand Viljoen, says with the current peace initiatives in southern Africa the Defense Force has returned to a position of preparedness, with the trust that a diplomatic solution for peace will be found. Gen Viljoen said in the latest issue of the Defense Force magazine *PARATUS* that the Defense Force had known and advocated all along that the final battle in the struggle for peace would not be fought on the military battlefield; therefore, the Defense Force had great and high expectations in the peace initiatives. The Defense Force was, thus, fully aware that a long and difficult road lay ahead, and that preparedness should not be relaxed at this stage. Should things go wrong, the Defense Force was still at the ready.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Greets UN Official, Reaffirms Support

MB131038 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kaunda, said in Lusaka that the United Nations is the only body which can assure mankind of world peace at the moment. Dr Kaunda said this last night when visiting UN under secretary general, Mr Rafeeuddin Ahmed, called on him at State House. He said Zambia considers herself a sub-organ of the United Nations and is sincere and honest in her dealings in the problems of southern Africa. He said Zambia had not done anything to contravene any rules that have been established by the United Nations or any of its [word indistinct] agencies in the implementation of UN Resolution 435 on Namibia. Dr Kaunda commended the UN secretary general, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, for shouldering all the responsibilities in this respect and assured him of Zambia's support.

Later last night, President Kaunda said that southern Africa is a very explosive part of the world today which would be dangerous if not properly handled. The president told that to the commissioner for Namibia to the United Nations, Mr Brajesh Mishra, when he called on him at State House. He told the UN envoy that Zambia was a supporter of what the United Nations was doing in trying to remove obstacles in the implementation of Resolution 435 on Namibia. Dr Kaunda told Mr Mishra that it cannot be easy to solve the problem, especially since South Africa has got a different approach, but hoped that this would change in due course.

Party Chief Meets UN Commissioner for Namibia

MB131930 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Party Secretary General Humphrey Mulemba has expressed hope that South Africa's overtures in southern Africa will lead to a speedy solution to the Namibian problem. Mr Mulemba warned, however, that if the South African moves are merely a strategy to hoodwink the world, the results will be disastrous. The party chief was speaking in Lusaka today, when he received the UN Commissioner for Namibia, Brajesh Mishra, and said Zambia is happy to witness the new developments in the region. Mr Mulemba said Namibia would have been independent by now had it not been for South Africa's intransigence, and called on Pretoria to respect international resolutions, because all civilized peoples and governments abide by laid down rules and regulations, and not in obstinate isolation.

Mr Mishra said his organization is certain that Zambia is acting in good faith as her contact with South Africa to accelerate the Namibian independence.

ZIMBABWE

Official Says UN 'Cautious' on Namibia Initiatives

MB131718 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The UN High Commissioner for Namibia, Mr Brajesh Mishra, has expressed the hope that the recent developments in Namibia will bear positive rdsults. He told the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation in Harare today that the United Nations and SWAPO are viewing the developments cautiously. Mr Mishra said neither the withdrawal of South African forces from Angola nor the release of the SWAPO founder member, Comrade Toivo ja Toivo, indicates positive moves towards the independence of Namibia.

Mr Mishra, who is based in New York, is in Harare for talks with government officials.